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BOROUGH OF NELSON

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REPORT

OF THE

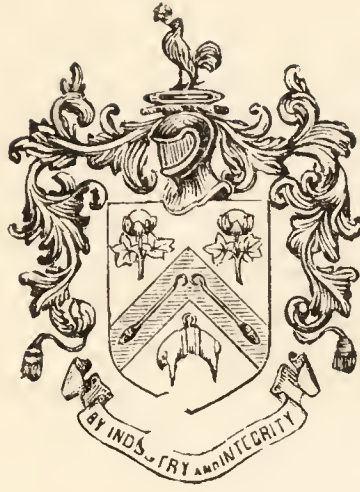
Medical Officer of Health

1954

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R. E. ROBINSON,  
Medical Officer of Health





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Medical Officer of Health



# BOROUGH OF NELSON

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## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN R. BLAND) (Chairman).

COUNCILLOR K. SUTCLIFFE (Vice-Chairman).

ALDERMAN W. BANNISTER.

„ S. SHAW.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. BANNISTER.

„ J. W. BUTTERFIELD.

„ H. F. CHAMINGS.

„ P. S. COX.

„ G. H. DUXBURY.

„ H. INGHAM.

„ MRS. E. KAY.

„ F. MANSFIELD.

„ F. MULLIGAN.

„ K. SPENCE.

„ J. STEPHENSON.

„ F. THOMAS.

„ A. T. WELLS,



## LIST OF LOCAL AND ADOPTED SANITARY ACTS ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL.

- Nelson Water and Gas Act, 1866.  
 Nelson Local Board Act, 1879.  
 Nelson Improvement Act, 1886.  
 Nelson Local Board Act, 1888.  
 Nelson Corporation Act, 1903.  
 Nelson Provisional Orders, 1871, 1873, 1876, 1890, 1895, 1897, 1899,  
 1904.  
 Borough of Nelson (Extension) Order, 1897.  
 The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, adopted 1891.  
 The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted 1896.  
 The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, parts adopted 1912.  
 The Nelson Corporation Act, 1921.  
 The Public Health Act, 1925, except Sections 15, 35 and 41.

## LIST OF BYE-LAWS RELATING TO SANITARY MATTERS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

### Dates of Adoption.

- 1890 Common Lodging Houses.  
 1897 Offensive trades: Blood Boiler, Blood Drier, Bone Boiler,  
 Felmonger, Tanner, Leather Dresser, Soap Boiler, Tallow  
 Melter, Fat Melter, Tripe Boiler, Glue Maker, Size Maker,  
 Gut Scraper.  
 1897 Nuisances.  
 1897 and 1907 Slaughterhouses.  
 1911 Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.  
 1931 Sanitary Conveniences.  
 1939 Buildings.  
 1951 Clean Food Bye-laws.  
 1953 Regulating the emission of Black Smoke.



## STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health ..... R. E. ROBINSON,  
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector ... G. PRITCHARD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors ..... L. N. BRUNSKILL, M.S.I.A.  
J. A. LOFTHOUSE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Commenced duty: 5th April, 1954.

Resigned: 5th December, 1954.

Chief Clerk ..... N. GRIFFITHS.

Clerks ..... MISS M. P. SCOTT.

MISS P. M. HAWORTH.

Resigned: 21st April, 1954.

MISS M. BRACEWELL.

Commenced duty: 19th July, 1954.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
21 CARR ROAD,  
NELSON.  
16th August, 1955.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1954.

Throughout the year the health of the people of Nelson was remarkably good if judged on the statistics as the Maternal Mortality Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate show. But there are one or two disturbing features. For the last six years the death rate has exceeded the birth rate and this, coupled with the migration of our young married couples is a very serious state for any community. Unless new industries are brought into the town, Nelson will soon be the village it was a hundred years ago.

Infectious fevers figures were lower than in 1953 but Scarlet Fever claimed many victims. Fortunately the epidemic was of a mild nature. During March there was an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery of an unprecedented severity. Fifty three cases were notified but it is well known there were far more sufferers. The hygiene arrangements in most of the schools leaves much to be desired. Absence of washing facilities was contributory to the spread of this outbreak of Dysentery.

I am indebted to the various officials who have supplied me with information relative to work outside my control which has assisted me in the preparation of this report. I should also like to thank the members of the staff of the department for their willing co-operation throughout the year.

In conclusion I would express my appreciation to you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for your interest and assistance.

I have the honour to be,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

**R. E. ROBINSON,**  
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions  
of the Area.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres .....	3,466
Ordnance level, lowest point .....	350 feet
Ordnance level, highest point .....	1,100 feet
Ordnance level, centre of town .....	458 feet
Drainage of surface water—Natural, chiefly to Walverden Stream and Pendle Water.	
Subsoil—Clay with understratum of sandstone and outcroppings of coal.	
Population—Census, 1951 .....	34,384
Registrar-General's estimate of home population, mid-year 1954 .....	33,390
Number of inhabited houses—	
Census, 1951 .....	12,162
End of 1954 according to Rate Books .....	12,327
Rateable Value .....	£251,844
General Rate, 1954/1955 (s./d. in the £) .....	23/-
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£995

The estimated cost of the Local Health Service for the financial year 1954/55 was £4,822, which is equivalent to a rate of 4.85d. in the £.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1954 is 120 less than the estimate for the previous year and 994 less than the Census figure for 1951.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The manufacture of textiles of high quality is the predominant industrial feature of the town and employs approximately 65 per cent. of the insured population. The main section is the weaving of cotton and rayon, in which rather more than half the workers are females, and it is estimated that almost 1,000 women are part-time workers in the mills.

There are few large concerns outside textiles, although there is a variety of industry carried on by small firms; light engineering, metal goods, clothing, food and drink manufacturing, and the distributive trades for women, and engineering, transport, woodworking, brickmaking, building industry, and the gas and electricity services for men. These industries employ a substantial part of the labour force.



Employment throughout the year has been maintained at a high level and the wholly unemployed never reached 1% of the estimated insured employees.

In the main section of the textile industry, cotton and rayon weaving, the number of persons employed continued to increase until about June since when there was a steady decline up to the end of the year, but the labour force was still 90% of the peak force employed in 1951.

All other industries in the area maintained full employment throughout the year, and firms employed in engineering and sugar confectionery increased their labour force.

The year ended with an unsatisfied demand for workers in building, engineering, railways, textiles, surgical dressings and the distributive trades. The decrease in the textile labour force was partly accounted for by the termination of part-time and short day shift workers, mainly married women, who are not in the labour market for full-time work. Furthermore the increasing competition in both the home and export markets for textiles, makes a forecast of future employment conditions difficult to assess, and as this is the main industrial life of the town the conditions are, no doubt, reflected in the increased trend of migration. The district, has, however, been designated a Development Area and it is hoped that this will eventually be the means of establishing new industries and a more diverse industrial aspect.

## **CLIMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS..**

The Climatological Station situate in the grounds of the Cemetery, Walton Lane, is maintained by the Health Department and observations are taken at 9 a.m. G.M.T. throughout the year.

The following comments with regard to the various aspects of the weather during 1954 are of interest.

### **RAINFALL.**

It was the wettest year recorded since the climatological station was opened in 1927. The total of 57.36" of rain or 29.4% more than average was measured, and there were 264 wet days or 16.3 per cent. more than average. The previous wettest year was 1928, with 54.09" of rain and 258 wet days. The average figures are 44.31" of rainfall and 227 wet days.

There was an excess of rain during eight months of the year and only one really dry month which was April, with only 0.87" of rain or 31.2 per cent. of average.

October was the wettest month with 8.71" or 82.2 per cent. more than average, but the wettest day of the year was 20th January with 1.96".

From May to the end of the year with the exception of June, the monthly totals were all above average by as much as from 30 per cent. to 80 per cent.

### TEMPERATURES.

There were no periods of really warm weather and the highest temperature recorded was 77.8°F. on the 1st September.

An unusually cold spell commenced on the 24th January and lasted until the 11th February. Several days the maximum temperature never rose above freezing point and on the 2nd February a minimum temperature as low as 13.6°F. was recorded, and the grass minimum temperature that day was 4.6°F. Snow fell on several days with heavy falls on the 9th and 28th February. It was the coldest February since 1947.

The mean temperatures for March were below average. April promised better with warmer days, but the nights were cold and there were eighteen days with ground frost and five with air frost. The mean temperatures for the month were below average.

The summer months were a succession of cool, cloudy months. June was the dullest since 1944 and the coldest since 1948; July was the coldest since 1927; August maximum temperatures were well below average, as much as from 8-10° on three or four days, so that the mean maximum was 4° below average; September did little to improve matters except during the first few days. October took a different turn and the outstanding features were the frequency of mild days and nights. Day temperatures were above average on twenty days, by 10° on three or four occasions, and the night temperatures were above the average on twenty-six occasions. It was the warmest October since 1949.

Maximum temperatures were little above average during November and December but there were several days with ground and air frost.

## SUNSHINE.

Another marked feature was the lack of sunshine which was only 85.8 per cent. of the average, and the smallest amount recorded for ten years.

The sunniest month was April with 20.8 per cent. more than average, but most months were below. The summer months, with the exception of September were well below average, in fact June, July and August were the dullest since 1944, 1947 and 1943 respectively.

Further more detailed information from the records is given in the following tables.

1. Barometric Pressure, Humidity and Rainfall.
2. Thermometers.
3. Bright Sunshine.
4. Rainfall and Sunshine, comparisons with average.
5. Rainfall at various points.



BAROMETRIC PRESSURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL.

Month	Barometer				Mean Relative Humid- ity %	Total Rainfall	Mean Daily Rainfall		Greatest fall in One Day		No. of days with rain	No. of days with- out rain
	Highest Reading Millibars	Day	Lowest Reading Millibars	Day			Inches	Inches	Inches	Day of month		
January	1038.5	1	988.3	15	87.6	3.96	0.13	1.96	20	17	14	
February	1035.7	3	977.3	26	92.0	3.16	0.11	0.58	25	20	8	
March...	1024.6	16	969.7	3	86.0	2.63	0.08	0.52	25	23	8	
April	1037.6	16	1001.9	1	75.5	0.87	0.03	0.25	3	11	19	
May	1026.6	19	984.8	2	75.0	3.16	0.10	1.34	28	17	14	
June	1025.1	3	990.9	9	79.5	2.20	0.07	0.43	9, 15	18	12	
July	1019.4	20	988.9	28	80.7	5.90	0.19	1.50	23	24	7	
August...	1023.7	28	984.8	2	82.2	7.60	0.25	1.32	1	29	2	
September	1021.1	23	994.7	24	79.4	5.74	0.19	0.77	29	27	3	
October	1029.6	7	980.0	24	89.9	8.71	0.28	1.30	14	27	4	
November	1036.1	17	966.8	30	87.0	6.51	0.22	1.00	5	25	5	
December	1026.9	17	959.8	9	89.7	6.92	0.22	0.74	8	26	5	
For 1954	1038.5	1st Jan.	959.8	9th Dec.	83.7	57.36	0.16	1.96	20th Jan.	264	101	
For 1953	1042.6	9th Mar.	968.0	10th Feb.	82.2	43.87	0.12	2.23	26th June	206	159	

THERMOMETERS.

Month	In Screen										On Grass			In Ground			
	Maximum					Minimum					Mean Min.	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month	Mean Temp.	1 ft.	4 ft.	
	Mean	Highest Temp.	Day of Month	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month	Mean	Highest Temp.	Day of Month	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month							
January ... ..	40.2	53.0	15	28.5	31	31.3	44.1	20	20.1	8	35.75	8.9	26.4	13.6	8	36.7	42.6
February ... ..	38.6	50.2	22	29.4	2	29.5	43.7	23	13.6	2	34.05	9.1	24.0	4.6	2	34.5	39.6
March ... ..	44.8	55.0	22	32.0	1	34.9	45.0	22	12.8	2	39.85	9.9	31.5	14.0	2	39.2	40.2
April ... ..	51.3	56.8	15,17	42.9	20	36.6	48.0	3	29.8	19	43.95	14.7	30.3	21.8	19	44.2	43.4
May ... ..	57.6	71.8	12	45.1	2	43.8	57.5	28	34.6	16	50.70	13.8	39.3	26.5	8	49.9	46.5
June ... ..	59.6	67.2	3	54.0	11	48.3	56.0	18	42.2	13	53.95	11.3	45.8	38.2	13	55.6	51.1
July ... ..	60.0	70.0	9	52.8	27	49.7	57.4	25	40.0	7	54.85	10.3	46.5	34.2	7	56.8	53.3
August ... ..	61.1	70.0	31	55.0	16	50.5	56.0	31	42.0	14	55.80	10.6	48.2	35.7	1	56.8	54.3
September... ..	58.8	77.8	1	50.6	27	46.6	58.8	2	34.3	27	52.70	12.2	42.1	30.3	27	54.2	54.1
October ... ..	56.2	66.0	2	43.5	24	46.8	58.0	3, 18	28.7	26	51.50	9.4	43.5	22.6	26	51.5	52.0
November... ..	48.1	57.4	11	42.0	17	37.5	45.9	12	27.2	17	42.80	10.6	33.4	21.4	17	43.7	48.2
December ... ..	45.8	56.0	2	34.5	7	37.9	48.8	3	29.3	24	41.85	7.9	33.8	21.7	24	41.6	44.6
For 1954 ... ..	51.8	77.8	1st Sept.	28.5	31st Jan.	41.1	58.8	2nd Sep.	12.8	2nd Mar	46.45	10.7	37.1	4.6	2nd Feb.	47.1	47.5
For 1953 ... ..	54.2	88.8	12th Aug.	32.1	11th Feb.	42.5	60.2	13th Aug.	20.9	8th Feb.	48.35	11.7	38.6	16.8	8th Feb.	48.1	47.9

## BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

Month	Total Bright Sunshine	Mean Daily Bright Sunshine	Highest in one day		No. of days with Bright Sunshine	No. of days without Bright Sunshine
			Amount hours	Day of month		
January ...	39.3	1.3	5.5	28	16	15
February ...	40.0	1.4	7.7	20	16	12
March... ...	79.5	2.6	8.6	5	23	8
April ... ..	148.8	4.9	11.6	19	24	6
May ... ..	128.0	4.1	10.6	18	26	5
June ... ..	130.7	4.4	13.0	3	23	7
July ... ..	110.0	3.5	10.5	19	27	4
August... ..	86.8	2.8	9.4	26	24	7
September ...	113.2	3.8	9.3	22	29	1
October ... ..	54.3	1.8	8.2	6, 25	20	11
November ...	44.5	1.5	6.4	14	19	11
December ...	7.2	0.2	2.1	1	10	21
For 1954 ...	982.3	2.70	13.0	3 June	257	108
For 1953 ...	1245.6	3.41	13.6	27 June	271	94

TABLES SHOWING COMPARISON OF RAINFALL AND SUNSHINE FIGURES FOR 1954 WITH  
AVERAGE AMOUNTS, AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF AVERAGE.

RAINFALL.

MONTH	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Amount in Inches .....	3.96	3.16	2.63	0.87	3.16	2.20	5.90	7.60	5.74	8.71	6.51	6.92	57.36"
% of Average .....	84.3	88.5	106.0	31.2	136.8	73.8	160.8	179.2	146.8	182.2	131.5	167.1	129.4%
Average 26 years .....	4.70	3.57	2.48	2.47	2.31	3.01	3.67	4.24	3.91	4.78	4.95	4.14	44.31"
Group % of Average	<div> <div>92.9</div> <div>80.6</div> <div>121.4</div> <div>162.3</div> <div>160.3</div> </div>												

SUNSHINE.

MONTH	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Amount in Hours .....	39.3	40.0	79.5	148.8	128.0	130.7	110.0	86.8	113.2	54.3	44.5	7.2	982.3 hrs.
% of Average .....	159.9	91.3	93.8	120.8	75.4	73.8	75.3	61.4	111.1	73.3	118.7	38.1	85.8%
Average 26 years .....	25.2	43.8	84.8	123.2	169.8	177.2	146.3	141.3	101.9	74.1	37.5	18.7	1143.8 hrs.
Group % of average ...	<div> <div>115.0</div> <div>90.0</div> <div>86.3</div> <div>82.6</div> <div>76.7</div> </div>												



# RAINFALL.

Comparative Table showing amounts measured at various points during the year.

Month			Ogden (inches)		Sewerage Works (inches)		Coldwell (inches)		Meteorological Station (Cemetery) (inches)
January	...	...	5.53	...	4.29	...	4.25	...	3.96
February	...	...	3.36	...	3.10	...	4.19	...	3.16
March	...	...	3.29	...	2.78	...	2.70	...	2.63
April	...	...	1.62	...	1.05	...	0.96	...	0.87
May	...	...	3.22	...	3.16	...	4.08	...	3.16
June	...	...	3.98	...	2.49	...	2.88	...	2.20
July	...	...	9.44	...	6.44	...	7.88	...	5.90
August	...	...	8.82	...	7.93	...	8.63	...	7.60
September	...	...	8.34	...	6.17	...	6.40	...	5.74
October	...	...	11.18	...	8.63	...	9.38	...	8.71
November	...	...	7.44	...	6.65	...	7.14	...	6.51
December	...	...	9.51	...	7.98	...	7.42	...	6.92
Totals	...	...	75.73	...	60.67	...	65.91	...	57.36

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :	Males	Females	Total	Rate
Legitimate ... ..	174	184	358	
Illegitimate ... ..	6	6	12	
Total ... ..	180	190	370	Crude : 11.1 per 1,000 of population. Adjusted : 12.1 per 1,000.
Still Births :				
Legitimate ... ..	6	2	8	
Illegitimate ... ..	1	2	3	
Total ... ..	7	4	11	28.8 per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Deaths :				
Total ... ..	266	239	505	Crude : 15.1 per 1,000 of population. Adjusted : 13.5 per 1,000.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :				
Legitimate ... ..	8	—	8	
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	
Total ... ..	8	—	8	21.6 per 1,000 Live Births.
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :				
Legitimate ... ..	6	—	6	
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	
Total ... ..	6	—	6	16.2 per 1,000 Live Births.
Maternal Deaths ... ..		Nil		Nil per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Excess of Deaths over Live Births ... ..	86	49	135	

## BIRTHS.

The total of 370 live births registered during 1954 is a decrease of 117 on the previous year and a decrease of 105 on the average per year over the previous five years, or 24% and 22% respectively. It is also the smallest number notified per year since 1941. The Live Birth Rate of 11.1 per 1,000 of population is also the lowest recorded since 1941, is 3.4 per 1,000 less than the rate for 1953 and 2.8 per 1,000 less than the average rate for the previous five years.

The Live Birth Rate for England and Wales as a whole is 15.2 per 1,000 of population, compared with the Nelson crude rate of 11.1 per 1,000 and adjusted rate of 12.1 per 1,000 of population.

The total illegitimate live births was 9 less than the previous year, giving illegitimate live birth rates 0.36 per 1,000 population and 32.4 per 1,000 live births, decreases of 0.46 and 10.7 respectively.

During the year 344 live births were registered in Nelson and 251 or 73% took place in the Maternity Home, but 43 or 17% of the latter and 1 or 1.1% of the remainder were relative to parents living out of the Borough. Of the 370 net births assignable to Nelson 70 or 18.9% took place outside the Borough.

### STILL BIRTHS.

The 11 still births registered represent 2.8% of the total births and give Still Birth Rates of 28.8 per 1,000 total births, an increase of 8.7 on the previous year, and 0.32 per 1,000 population, an increase of 0.04 on the previous year.

The Still Birth Rates for England and Wales as a whole are 23.4 per 1,000 related births and 0.36 per 1,000 of population.

### DEATHS.

The 505 registered deaths is a decrease of 21 (6 males and 15 females) on the total for the previous year and is also 31 less than the average for the five previous years.

The Death Rate of 15.1 is a decrease of 0.6 per 1,000 of population on the previous year and on the previous five years' average. The figure for England and Wales is 11.3 per 1,000 population, which is 3.8 per 1,000 less than the Nelson Crude Rate and 2.2 per 1,000 higher than the Nelson Adjusted Rate.

The main causes of death are the same as in recent years, namely Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System; Coronary Disease, Angina, and Other Heart Diseases. These causes account for 215 deaths or 42.5% of the total, compared with 253 deaths or 48.1% of the total in 1953. There were 6 more female than male deaths from Malignant Neoplasms (Cancer) and the total of 76 deaths was a decrease of 16 or 0.46 per 1,000 population on the previous year. The death rates for this cause were, Crude—2.28 per 1,000 population, Adjusted—2.02 per 1,000 population, compared with 2.04 per 1,000 population for England and Wales as a whole. The percentage of deaths from cancer of persons under 65 years of age was 31% compared with 40% and 38% for 1953 and 1952 respectively.



In the age groups the largest number of deaths, 19.01% of the total, were in the 70-75 years group and 56.4% of the total deaths were of persons aged 70 years or over, compared with 52.6% in 1953.

There were 135 more deaths (86 males and 49 females) than births during the year and the highest monthly total was 69 in December.

Of the total deaths in Nelson 22.1% occurred in hospital or institution and 14.3% were outward transfers or persons belonging to other districts; 88.1% of the latter occurring in hospital. Nelson residents who died outside the Borough accounted for 30.2% of the net deaths and 93.4% of these inward transfer deaths occurred in hospital or institution.

### **INFANT DEATHS.**

There were 8 fewer infant deaths than in the previous year and 4 less than average over the previous five years. The principal cause of death was prematurity and six of the eight deaths occurred within seven days of birth. With one exception all the infant deaths took place in hospital or maternity home.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 21.6 per 1,000 live births was a decrease of 11.2 per 1,000 on the previous year and 3.6 per 1,000 less than the average for the previous five years. The rate for England and Wales as a whole is 25.5 per 1,000 live births, and is 1.3 per 1,000 less than last year, but 3.9 per 1,000 greater than the rate for Nelson.

### **NEO-NATAL DEATHS.**

The six neo-natal deaths was a reduction of six on the previous year (which, incidentally, was the highest since 1948), and four less than the average per year over the previous five years. All the deaths occurred within one week of birth.

The Neo-natal Mortality Rate was 16.2 per 1,000 live births, which was 1.5 per 1,000 less than the figure for England and Wales.

### **MATERNAL DEATHS.**

For the first time since 1949 there was no maternal death registered during the year.

The following Tables and Graphs show:—

TABLES :

1. Various Nelson Rates for the years 1949-1954 and the average of the 5 years, 1949-1953.
2. Comparison of Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for 1954 with figures for England and Wales.
3. Deaths from Various Causes during 1954, with equivalent Death Rates.
4. Deaths from Various Causes with equivalent Death Rates for 1952-1954.
5. Summary of Ages at Death.
6. Monthly Analysis of Deaths showing Monthly Death Rates.
7. Monthly Analysis of Deaths in Wards.
8. Deaths occurring in Hospitals and Institutions in relation to total deaths.
9. Analysis of Neo-natal and Infant Deaths according to ages and Causes of Death.
10. Analysis of Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms according to site of primary growth, with figures for previous year.

GRAPHS :

1. Annual Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of population from 1925.
2. Actual Number of Births and Infant Deaths per year from 1925.
3. Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births from 1925.

VARIOUS NELSON RATES FOR THE YEARS 1949-1954 AND THE AVERAGE OF THE 5 YEARS 1949-1953.

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1954 ... ..	370	*11.1	505	*15.1	11	29	—	—	8	22	6	16
Year 1953 ... ..	487	14.5	526	15.7	10	20	1	2.01	16	33	12	25
Year 1952 ... ..	455	13.4	465	13.7	10	22	1	2.15	8	18	6	13
Year 1951 ... ..	464	13.6	580	16.9	13	27	1	2.10	13	28	10	22
Year 1950 ... ..	490	14.1	564	16.3	5	10	2	4.04	6	12	5	10
Year 1949 ... ..	478	13.8	548	15.9	14	28	—	—	17	36	8	16
Average 5 years— 1949-1953	475	13.9	536	15.7	10	21	1	2.06	12	25	8	17

\* Adjusted—Live Birth Rate (Comparability factor : 1.09) = 12.1 per 1,000.

Death Rate (Comparability factor : 0.89) = 13.5 per 1,000.

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATES, DEATH  
RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY FOR ENGLAND  
AND WALES AND NELSON FOR THE YEAR 1954.

	(1) England and Wales		(2) Nelson	
	Number Registered	Rate per 1,000 home population	Number Registered	Rate per 1,000 home population
Births :				
Live Births .....	673,212	15.2	370	*11.1
Still Births .....	16,130	( 0.36 (23.4 (a)	11	( 0.32 (28.8 (a)
Deaths :				
All Causes .....	501,878	11.3	505	*15.1
Tuberculosis (all forms) .....	7,899	0.18	3	0.09
Respiratory .....	7,069	0.16	2	0.06
Non-respiratory .....	830	0.02	1	0.03
Cancer (all forms) .....	90,099	2.04	76	2.28
Lung and bronchus .....	16,330	0.37	9	0.27
Other cancer .....	73,769	1.67	67	2.01
Maternal Mortality (total) .....	478	0.69	nil	nil
Maternal causes (excluding Abortion) .....	402	0.58	nil	nil
Due to Abortion .....	76	0.11	nil	nil
	Number Registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number Registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Infant Mortality .....	17,098	25.5 (b)	8	21.6
Neo-natal Mortality .....	11,944	17.7 (b)	6	16.2

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

Estimated home population (1) 44,274,000.

(2) 33,390.

(1) Provisional figures based on Registrar-General's Quarterly Returns.

\* Adjusted : Live Birth Rate 12.1 per 1,000 (Comp. Fact. 1.09)

Death Rate

13.5 per 1,000 (Comp. Fact. 0.89)



**DEATHS FROM VARIOUS CAUSES DURING 1954  
WITH EQUIVALENT DEATH RATES.**

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total	Death Rate per 1,000 population
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	—	2	2	0.06
2. Tuberculosis, other forms .....	1	—	1	0.03
3. Syphilitic disease .....	1	—	1	0.03
4. Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections .....	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—
8. Measles .....	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ...	7	5	12	0.36
11. „ „ lung, bronchus .....	8	1	9	0.27
12. „ „ breast .....	—	9	9	0.27
13. „ „ uterus .....	—	4	4	0.12
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	20	22	42	1.26
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	—	—	—	—
16. Diabetes .....	1	3	4	0.12
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	27	46	73	2.19
18. Coronary disease, angina .....	50	22	72	2.16
19. Hypertension with heart disease..	7	7	14	0.42
20. Other heart disease .....	25	45	70	2.10
21. Other circulatory diseases .....	20	13	33	0.99
22. Influenza .....	1	—	1	0.03
23. Pneumonia .....	9	6	15	0.45
24. Bronchitis .....	17	17	34	1.02
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .....	1	—	1	0.03
26. Ulcers of stomach or duodenum...	3	1	4	0.12
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3	0.09
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .....	2	2	4	0.12
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	6	—	6	0.18
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .....	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations .....	2	—	2	0.06
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	31	22	53	1.59
33. Motor vehicle accidents .....	4	2	6	0.18
34. All other accidents .....	7	7	14	0.42
35. Suicide .....	14	2	16	0.48
36. Homicide and operations of war...	—	—	—	—
All Causes .....	266	239	505	15.12

**COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING DEATHS FROM  
VARIOUS CAUSES AND EQUIVALENT DEATH RATES  
FOR 1954, 1953 AND 1952.**

Cause of Death	1954		1953		1952	
	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	2	00·06	6	00·18	11	00·32
2. Tuberculosis, other forms .....	1	00·03	1	00·03	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease .....	1	00·03	2	00·06	4	00·12
4. Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	—	2	00·06	1	00·03
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	12	00·36	16	00·48	31	00·91
11.       "       "   lung, bronchus	9	00·27	15	00·44	12	00·35
12.       "       "   breast .....	9	00·27	9	00·27	4	00·12
13.       "       "   uterus .....	4	00·12	4	00·12	3	00·09
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	42	01·26	48	01·43	29	00·86
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	—	—	7	00·21	—	—
16. Diabetes.....	4	00·12	2	00·06	2	00·06
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	73	02·19	80	02·39	78	02·30
18. Coronary disease, angina .....	72	02·16	79	02·36	66	01·95
19. Hypertension with heart disease	14	00·42	17	00·51	9	00·26
20. Other heart disease .....	70	02·10	94	02·80	81	02·39
21. Other circulatory diseases .....	33	00·99	21	00·62	30	00·88
22. Influenza .....	1	00·03	2	00·06	—	—
23. Pneumonia .....	15	00·45	9	00·27	10	00·29
24. Bronchitis .....	34	01·02	24	00·71	30	00·88
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system .....	1	00·03	6	00·18	1	00·03
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	00·12	1	00·03	6	00·18
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	00·09	1	00·03	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	4	00·12	10	00·30	6	00·18
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....	6	00·18	5	00·15	3	00·09
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .....	—	—	1	00·03	1	00·03
31. Congenital malformations .....	2	00·06	2	00·06	4	00·12
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	53	01·59	44	01·31	33	00·97
33. Motor vehicle accidents .....	6	00·18	1	00·03	—	—
34. All other accidents .....	14	00·42	11	00·33	4	00·12
35. Suicide .....	16	00·48	6	00·18	6	00·18
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes .....	505	15·12	526	15·69	465	13·71

Estimated population: 1954—33,390.  
1953—33,510.  
1952—33,900.

SUMMARY OF AGES AT DEATH.

Age Groups	Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Total Deaths Allocated to Nelson			% of each group to Total Deaths
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total	
Under 1 year										
Over 1 and under 2 years										
2	5	—	—	—	3	—	8	—	8	1.58
5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	0.20
15	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	2	0.40
20	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	0.20
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	3	4	0.79
35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.20
40	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	0.20
45	2	2	—	1	1	2	3	3	6	1.19
50	2	4	—	2	4	—	6	2	8	1.58
55	6	4	—	3	2	3	8	4	12	2.38
60	8	7	—	1	6	2	12	8	20	3.96
65	12	16	2	5	6	3	17	14	31	6.14
70	20	20	1	5	5	6	24	21	45	8.91
75	32	33	3	7	13	12	42	38	80	15.84
80	42	38	5	6	13	14	50	46	96	19.01
85	31	36	3	5	20	9	48	40	88	17.42
90	23	35	3	2	11	9	31	42	73	14.45
95	7	11	1	—	4	—	10	11	21	4.16
	1	5	—	—	1	—	2	5	7	1.39
TOTALS	193	218	19	40	92	61	266	239	505	100.00



# MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF DEATHS SHOWING RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

Month				Actual Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Net Deaths for Nelson				
				M	F	M	F	M	F	Number			Rate per 1000 pop'n.	
										M	F	Total		
January...	...	...	21	17	1	3	12	7	32	21	53	1.59		
February	...	...	13	24	—	5	8	6	21	25	46	1.38		
March	...	...	22	23	1	7	10	3	31	19	50	1.50		
April	...	...	9	19	1	1	7	6	15	24	39	1.17		
May	...	...	17	14	3	2	8	4	22	16	38	1.14		
June	...	...	12	15	—	5	5	4	17	14	31	0.93		
July	...	...	14	15	4	5	8	4	18	14	32	0.96		
August	...	...	10	15	—	1	4	3	14	17	31	0.93		
September	...	...	19	12	3	2	5	7	21	17	38	1.14		
October...	...	...	15	16	2	3	4	2	17	15	32	0.96		
November	...	...	15	19	3	3	10	8	22	24	46	1.38		
December	...	...	26	29	1	3	11	7	36	33	69	2.07		
Totals				...	193	218	19	40	92	61	266	239	505	15.12

## MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN WARDS IN 1954.

Month	Bradley			Central			Clover Hill			Marsden			Netherfield			Southfield			Walverden			Whitefield			Total		
	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T
Jan.	11	4	5	1	—	2	3	—	1	5	—	1	4	—	1	5	—	1	7	—	2	2	—	6	38	4	19
Feb.	12	5	2	2	—	3	5	—	1	4	—	1	5	—	1	2	—	—	5	—	3	2	—	3	37	5	14
Mar.	9	6	3	4	1	—	6	—	1	6	—	—	5	—	3	4	—	1	6	—	3	5	1	2	45	8	13
Apr.	7	1	5	4	—	2	4	—	1	2	—	1	7	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	1	28	2	13
May	8	4	3	1	—	1	3	—	2	2	—	2	7	1	3	3	—	—	4	—	—	3	—	1	31	5	12
June	9	5	1	3	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2	3	—	1	2	—	3	4	—	1	3	—	—	27	5	9
July	8	6	2	2	—	1	5	—	1	2	—	—	4	1	3	1	—	—	6	2	3	1	—	2	29	9	12
Aug.	6	1	1	2	—	2	5	—	2	1	—	1	3	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	25	1	7
Sept.	11	5	5	1	—	1	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	5	—	1	2	—	2	5	—	1	31	5	12
Oct.	9	5	—	1	—	2	2	—	1	2	—	1	5	—	—	4	—	1	2	—	1	6	—	1	31	5	6
Nov.	10	5	1	4	—	2	8	—	2	2	1	2	2	—	3	2	—	—	4	—	4	2	—	4	34	6	18
Dec.	15	3	5	8	1	1	4	—	3	6	—	2	7	—	—	5	—	—	3	—	1	7	—	6	55	4	18
Totals	115	50	33	33	2	17	49	—	15	38	1	13	52	3	18	37	—	8	47	2	21	40	1	28	411	59	153
Net Deaths	98			48			64			50			67			45			66			67			505		

**DEATHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITALS OR INSTITUTIONS  
DURING THE YEAR IN RELATION TO TOTAL DEATHS.**

QUARTER ENDING	Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Net Deaths	
	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.
31st March	56 64 120	7 18 25 or 20.8%	2 15 17	2 14 16 or 94.1%	30 16 46	29 16 45 or 97.8%	84 65 149	34 20 54 or 36.2%
30th June	38 48 86	5 11 16 or 18.6%	4 8 12	3 8 11 or 91.6%	20 14 34	20 11 31 or 91.1%	54 54 108	22 14 36 or 33.3%
30th September	43 42 85	13 15 28 or 32.9%	7 8 15	6 7 13 or 86.6%	17 14 31	15 13 28 or 90.3%	53 48 101	22 21 43 or 42.5%
31st December	56 64 120	9 13 22 or 18.3%	6 9 15	4 8 12 or 80.0%	25 17 42	25 14 39 or 92.8%	75 72 147	30 19 49 or 33.3%
Totals for the Year	193 218 411	34 57 91 or 22.1%	19 40 59	15 37 52 or 88.1%	92 61 153	89 54 143 or 93.4%	266 239 505	108 74 182 or 36.0%

ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS DURING 1954 ACCORDING TO AGES AND CAUSES.

Cause of Death	Neo-Natal Deaths											Other Infant Deaths											Total Infant deaths		
	Age at Death (days)											Age at Death (Months)													
	-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	6-	7-13	14-20	21-28	Total	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	6-	7-	8-	9-	10-	11-		Total	
Intestinal obstruction ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Intra-cranial and/or spinal injury at birth	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia of newborn ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Immaturity with subsidiary condition	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Immaturity unqualified ... ..	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Asphyxia and/or strangulation ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	
Totals ... ..	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	8	

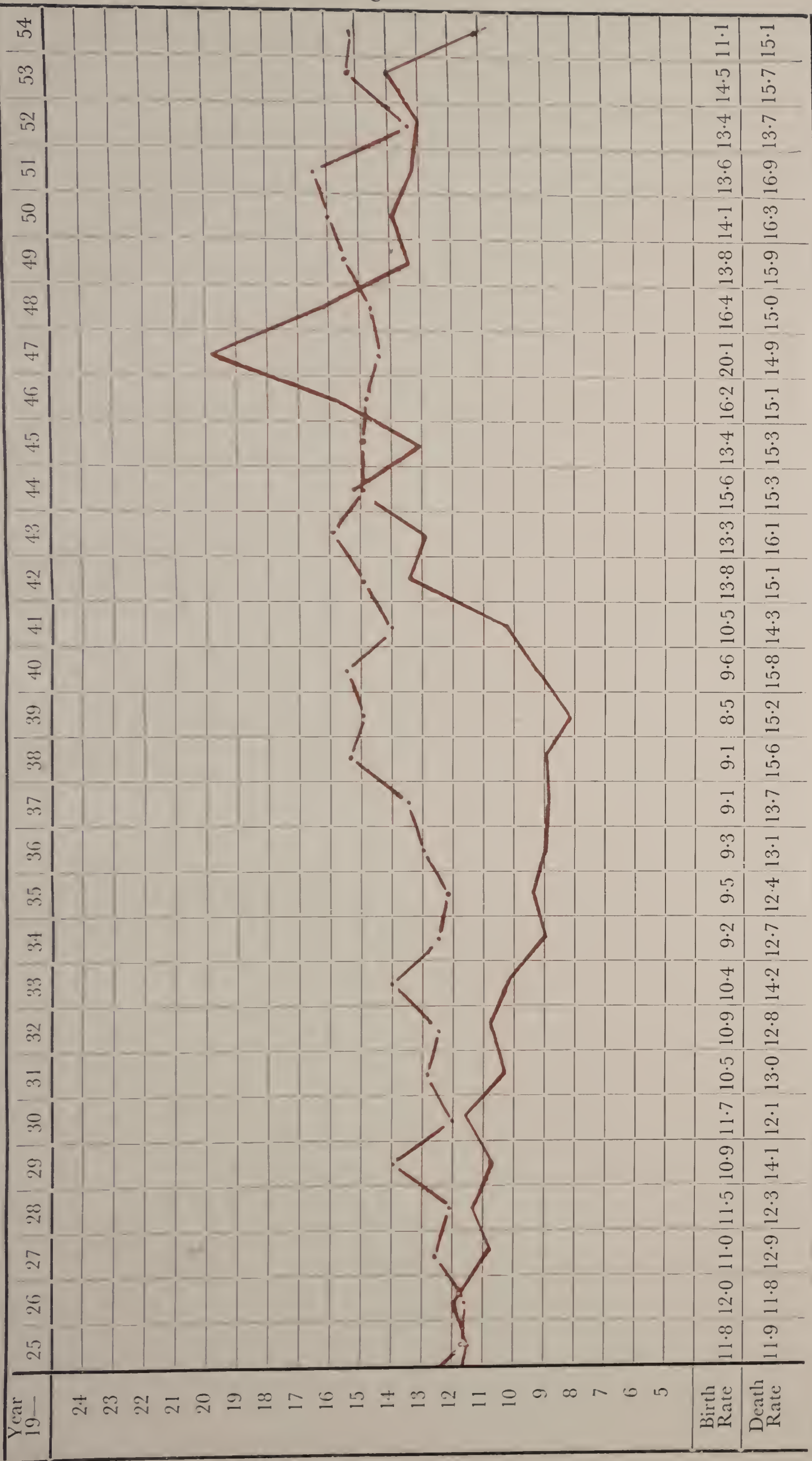


# ANALYSIS OF DEATHS OF NELSON RESIDENTS FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS DURING 1954 WITH 1953 FIGURES ADDED FOR COMPARISON.

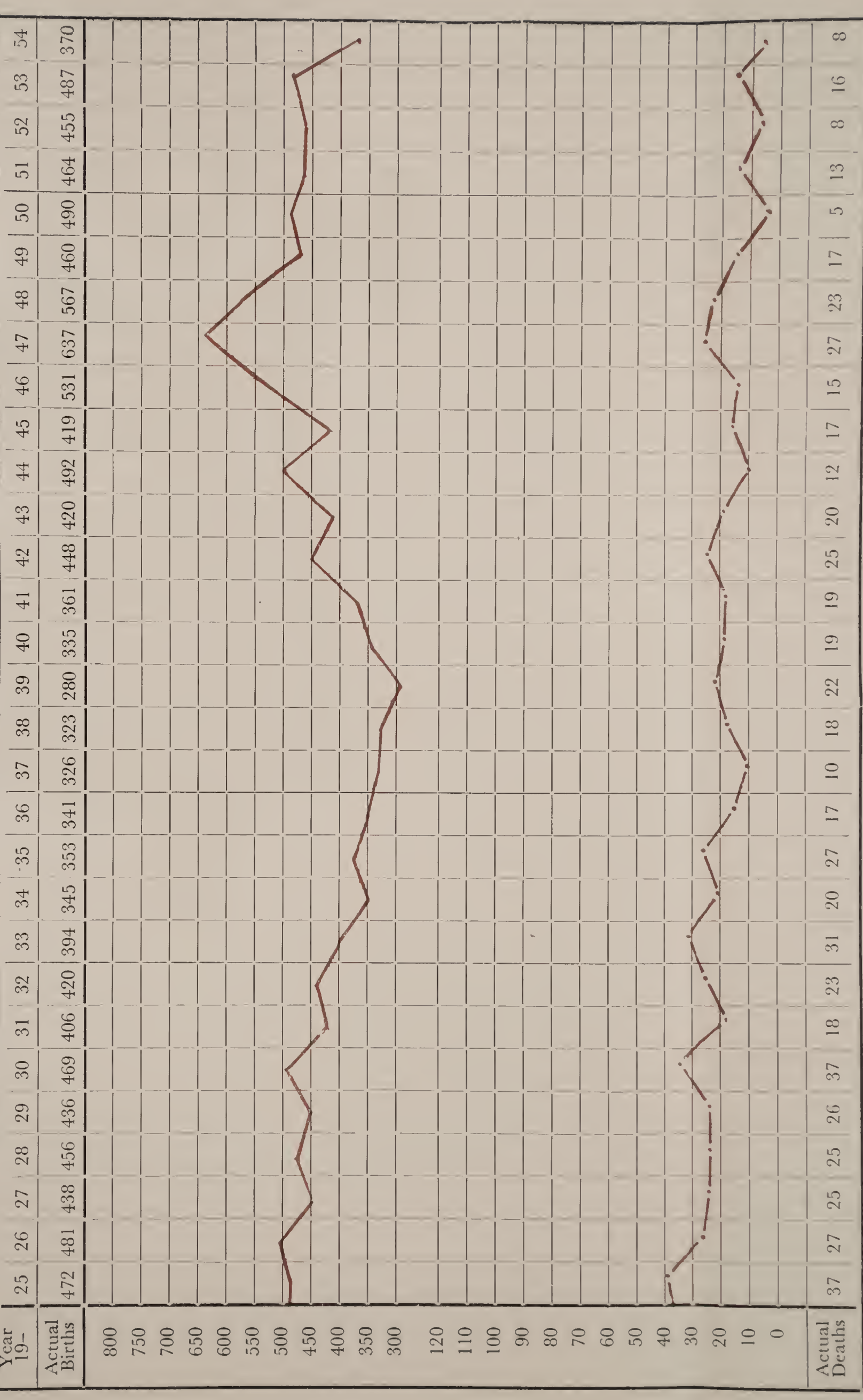
LOCATION OF GROWTH	AGE OF PATIENT												Total M. F.	1954		1953							
	35—40		40—45		45—50		50—55		55—60		60—65			65—70		70—75		75—80		80—85		85—90	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total	Rate per 1000 pop.
<b>Buccal Cavity and</b>																							
<b>Pharynx:</b>																							
Tongue .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.03
Pharynx .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03
<b>Digestive organs and</b>																							
<b>Peritoneum:</b>																							
Oesophagus .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	0.05
Stomach .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	0.35
Small intestine incl. duodenum .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	0.05
Large intestine .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	0.11
Rectum .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	0.20
Liver .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.03
Pancreas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	0.23
<b>Respiratory System:</b>																							
Larynx .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.03
Trachea & bronchus of lung .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	0.08
Lung .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	0.17
<b>Breast and Genito-</b>																							
<b>Urinary Organs:</b>																							
Breast .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	0.38
Cervix uteri .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.14
Corpus uteri .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	0.14
Uterus.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	0.03
Ovary .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.03
Other female gen. organs .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.05
Prostate .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	0.11
Testis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0.03
Kidney .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03
Bladder and other urinary organs ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	0.05
<b>Other and Unspecified</b>																							
<b>Sites:</b>																							
Skin.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.03
Eye .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Brain and other parts of nervous system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	0.05
Lymph Nodes .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	0.03
Other .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	1	1	—	—	2	2	4	3	2	4	7	4	9	35	41	76	92	2.28	2.74	—	—	—	—



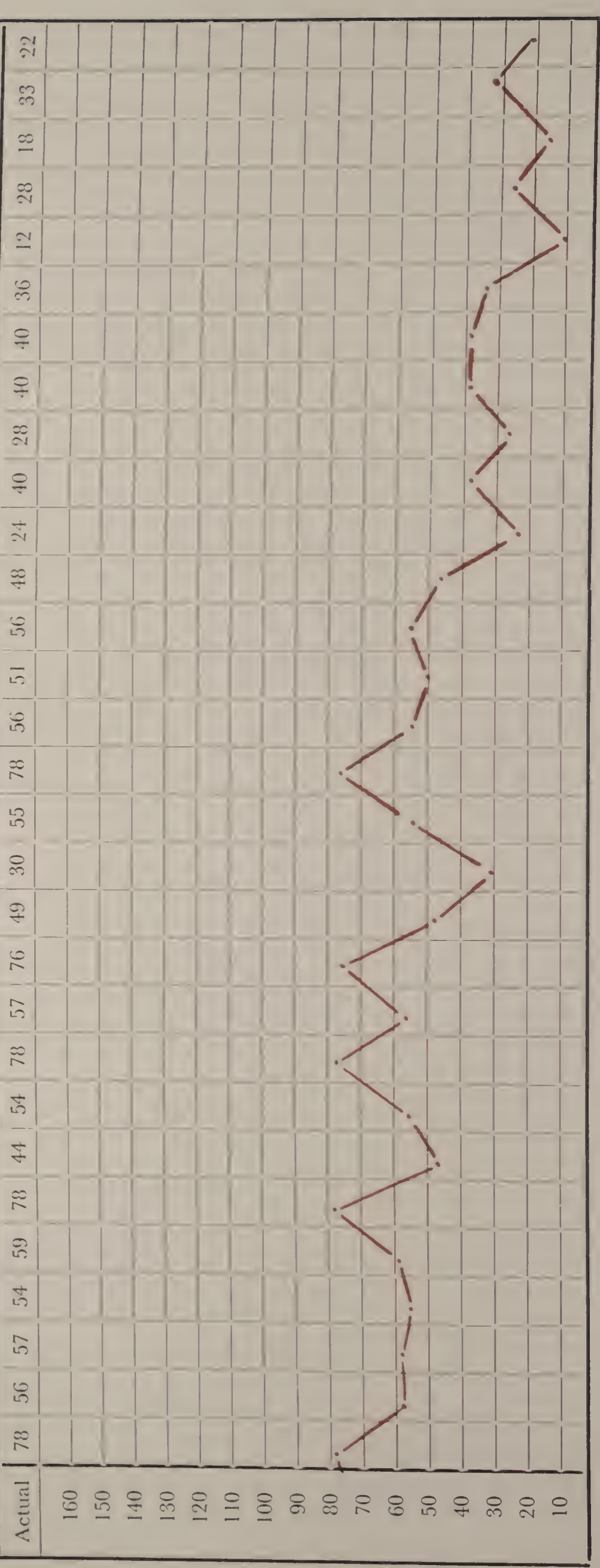
Annual Birth and Death Rates per 1000 of Population from 1925.



Actual Number of Births and Infant Deaths per year from 1925.



Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Births.













General Provision of Health Services  
for the Area

Particulars of the staff of the Health Department are given on page 5 of this report.

### HOSPITALS.

The Hospital Services for the Borough are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of the North-West Regional Hospital Board.

### VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

This service is also provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee and separate clinics are held twice a week for both male and female patients at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, as follows:—

Males	-	Tuesday	2-0 p.m. — 4-0 p.m.
		Friday	5-0 p.m. — 7-0 p.m.
Females	-	Tuesday	5-0 p.m. — 7-0 p.m.
		Friday	2-0 p.m. — 4-0 p.m.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The services of the Central Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley, are available for the use of this department and samples of milk and ice-cream were submitted for examination during the year, the results of which are given in the appropriate sections of this report.

In addition to the above, for the assistance of general medical practitioners of the town, specimens are received at this office for transmission to the Burnley Laboratory, and during the year the following specimens were submitted which were mainly from this source.

Blood—Rhesus test .....	I
Wasserman test .....	I
Faeces .....	97
Sputum .....	4
Swabs—throat .....	14
urethral .....	18
others .....	4
Urine—bacteriological examination .....	6
pregnancy test .....	14
Water .....	3
	<hr/>
Total .....	162
	<hr/>

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951, SECTION 47.

No action was found to be necessary during the year under this section for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

### TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE.

The Chest Clinic for the area is situate at the Marsden Hospital, Burnley, to which cases, and suspected cases, of tuberculosis are referred by medical practitioners. Patients are also visited in their own homes by the Tuberculosis Health Visitors of the Lancashire County Council Health Division No. 6. These Health Visitors advise on the care and after care of patients.

### OTHER SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following services which are administered from the Divisional Health Office, "Oakleigh," Reedley, Nr. Burnley.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Borough is serviced by ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station, "Oakleigh," Reedley.

This is a free service, available day or night. It is for the purpose of conveying persons suffering from illness, injury, disability or mental defectiveness, and also expectant and nursing mothers, to and from hospitals or clinics. Ambulances and sitting case cars are provided, and, where long distances are involved, arrangements may be made for conveyance by train.

Resuscitation apparatus, and other essential equipment, is carried in all ambulances.

#### ANTE-NATAL AND POST NATAL CARE.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held at 9/11 Carr Road, Nelson, and the sessions are conducted by a medical officer or midwife. Every endeavour is made to co-ordinate the work of the clinic with that of the patient's own doctor, or hospital clinic in the case of patients intending having their babies in hospital.

Post-natal examinations are arranged through the clinic. Dental care and treatment is also available for expectant and nursing mothers at Carr Road.



### CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

Situate at 9/11 Carr Road, Nelson, and sessions are held on Wednesdays at 2-0 p.m. and Fridays at 10-0 a.m. and 2-0 p.m. A medical officer and health visitors are in attendance and advice is obtainable on feeding, teething and general health matters affecting both mother and child. The object is to prevent ill health as distinct from curing established disease, which is the province of the family doctor.

Proprietary brands of foods are available at reduced prices for both babies and nursing mothers, as also are National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets.

### DAY NURSERIES.

A Day Nursery in Barkerhouse Road, Nelson, provides for children between the ages of nine months and five years. A standard charge is made, but reductions may be allowed according to financial circumstances.

### HEALTH VISITORS.

Health Visitors, who are fully trained nurses, are available for giving advice on the care of young children, expectant and nursing mothers, and care of the aged. Their duties include the visiting of the home to give advice on these and other health matters.

### HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service is provided to give assistance to households in time of difficulty and the demands for help are now so numerous that priority has to be given to the most urgent needs.

An evening attendance service, and a night attendance service are now provided. The latter is intended to meet only the cases of extreme urgency, usually chronic sick cases at home awaiting admission to hospital.

### HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Fully trained district nurses are available to care for the sick in their own homes, and their attendance is normally authorised by the family doctor.

### IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

The immunisation of children against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox is carried out free of charge at the Child Welfare Centre.

## NURSING EQUIPMENT.

A wide range of sickroom requisites and appliances including hospital type beds, bedrests, bedpans, urinals, mattresses and commodes, etc., are available on loan to patients free of charge.

## MENTAL HEALTH.

The duties of the County Council under Section 51 of the National Health Services Act, 1946, are delegated to the Divisional Health Committee and information and advice concerning the mentally sick and mentally defective persons can be obtained from the Divisional Health Office.

## MIDWIFERY.

Midwives are available for home confinements and two district midwives of the divisional staff are assigned to Nelson. Both are resident within the Borough.

## SCHOOL HEALTH.

Ophthalmic, dental, minor ailments and orthopædic clinics are provided and regular medical inspections in the schools are carried out.

There are two School Clinics within the borough situated as follows:—

9/11 Carr Road, Nelson.  
259 Manchester Road, Nelson.

## WELFARE SERVICES.

### CARE OF THE AGED.

Residential accommodation in hostels is provided for persons who by reason of age, infirmity or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention.

Further information regarding these services may be obtained from my report as Divisional Medical Officer.



## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.



## WATER SUPPLY.

Upland surface water and springs form the sources of supply to the two reservoirs, Ogden and Coldwell. These are situate to the west and east of the town, and in each case pressure filters and chlorination plant are installed, for the treatment of the raw water before it goes into supply.

The catchment areas are inspected by the Water Engineer to ensure freedom from pollution, in addition to which both the raw water and the treated water are subject to regular sampling.

A total of 114 samples of water were examined bacteriologically, and were reported upon as follows:

	No. of samples.		Positive.		Negative.
Raw water .....	57	...	28	...	29
Treated water .....	57	...	1	...	56

Immediately upon receipt of the adverse sample report on the treated water, the chlorine dosage was increased. The water supply has otherwise been satisfactory in quality.

Water is supplied to adjoining districts in addition to the 12,527 dwellinghouses within the Borough, having an estimated population of 33,450. No dwellinghouses are supplied by means of stand pipes.

Extensions to water mains were carried out in three instances, when a total of 341 yards of new main were provided. It is estimated that 400 houses are without an adequate internal water supply, but 10 rows of property involving 118 houses have had joint service pipe replacements made during the year.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

With the exception of the rural part of the district on the eastern side of the town, the whole of the area is sewered, discharging to the Sewage Works at Lindred. The sewers are mainly of the high level type, with natural gravitation to Lindred, whilst sewage from the low-lying district of Lomeshaye is raised at the Sewage Works by automatic ejectors.

The method of treatment is screening, detritus tanks, storm water overflow, primary and secondary settling tanks, and humus tanks. The final effluent is discharged into Pendle Water. Sludge from the settling tanks is digested during the summer months, and spread on farm grassland in the winter months.

The estimated daily dry weather flow of sewage was about two million gallons per day.

The extension of existing sewers on the Marsden Park Housing Estate continued, and 45 new houses were connected to the sewer.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Lancashire Rivers Board are responsible for dealing with rivers and streams in the district.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of middens .....	10
Number of closets attached to these middens .....	10
Number of pail closets .....	20
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens) .....	Nil
Number of movable ashbins .....	12,852
Number of trough closets .....	Nil
Number of waste water closets .....	6,611
Number of fresh water closets .....	6,519
Conversions during the year:	

Number of privy closets to fresh water closets .....	Nil
Number of pail closets to fresh water closets .....	Nil
Number of waste water closets to fresh water closets ...	198
There are 12,472 houses on the water carriage system.	

### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Public Cleansing is undertaken by the Cleansing Department, under the control of Mr. V. Robinson. Weekly collections are made of house and trade refuse, with twice weekly visits to food premises for garbage, fish waste and slaughterhouse offal collections.

The collection of household refuse is carried out by covered vehicles, and special bins are provided for the reception of food waste.

Approximately 80% of the household refuse is now disposed of by controlled tipping, the remaining 20% and the trade refuse being screened, separated and incinerated at the Charles Street plant.

Cesspool cleansing is done at intervals of two to four weeks, the cesspools being emptied manually into a trailer tank.

There are also vehicles specially designed for street gully emptying and street sweeping.

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The fact that, for eight months of the year, the Department was fully staffed, is reflected in the increase in the number of premises visited during the period under review. This amounted to 1,000 more than last year. However, Mr. Lofthouse resigned his appointment towards the end of the year, so that the position reverted to what is feared might be normal, that is, a continued shortage of inspectorial staff. This, coupled with the additional onerous duties of meat inspection and work in connection with housing and food hygiene, renders it virtually impossible to carry out routine inspections of factories and other premises.

### ANALYTICAL TABLE OF INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS.

	Inspections.	Re-inspections.
Bakehouses .....	67	99
Boiler Plants .....	22	—
Butchers' Shops .....	115	94
Canal Boats .....	1	—
Closets—Water .....	6	—
Closets—Waste Water .....	8	1
Complaints Received .....	336	143
Complaints Confirmed .....	296	170
Dairies, Milkshops and Milkstores ...	21	7
Drains inspected .....	73	9
Drains Smoke Test .....	24	—
Drains Olfactory Test .....	11	—
Drains Colour Test .....	188	27
Drains Defective .....	66	35
Educational Talks Given .....	1	—
Fish Frying Establishments .....	30	41
Food (Preserved) Manufacturers .....	113	89
Food Catering Establishments .....	39	19
Food Shops and Warehouses .....	101	67
Factories (a) Power .....	57	32
Factories (b) Non-Power .....	5	9
Fatstock Guarantee Scheme .....	6	—
Fishmongers' Shops .....	5	10
Hawkers' Vans .....	6	1
Houses Certificate of Disrepair .....	1	—



Houses Defective .....	183	714
Houses Detailed Inspection .....	28	I
Houses Overcrowding .....	5	—
Houses Dirty .....	6	II
Houses Survey .....	15	—
Ice-Cream Manufacturers .....	7	—
Ice-Cream Retailers .....	25	—
Infectious/Notifiable Diseases .....	201	10
Insect Infestations .....	16	2
Interviews .....	538	2
Markets .....	20	—
Meat and Food Inspections .....	325	—
Meat and Food Condemnations .....	292	—
Meetings with Owners .....	153	—
Meetings with Contractors .....	51	—
Miscellaneous .....	708	20
Notices Served:		
Verbal .....	158	—
Informal .....	211	—
Statutory P.H.A. ....	15	—
Offensive Accumulations .....	12	2
Pet Stores .....	5	—
Piggeries .....	4	12
Public Houses .....	11	10
Rag Flock Premises .....	1	—
Rats and Mice .....	12	I
Samples Submitted:		
Ice-Cream .....	45	—
Milk (Biological Test) .....	125	—
Milk (Methylene Blue Test) .....	132	—
Milk (Phosphatase Test) .....	8	—
Milk (Turbidity Test) .....	4	—
Rag Flock .....	2	—
Water, etc. ....	1	—
Slaughterhouses .....	313	—
Schools .....	37	—
Shops Act .....	2	—
Smoke Observations .....	583	—



Swab and Rinse Tests .....	19	—
Verminous Premises .....	2	—
Water Supply .....	3	—
Workplaces .....	1	—

The number of complaints received rose by 15% compared with last year's figure. The number of tests carried out on drainage systems was increased from 66 in 1953 to 223 this year, but the biggest increase in the number of visits was in connection with food premises, an increase of more than double the number made last year.

### SHOPS ACT.

Duties under this Act are carried out by Mr. F. Clegg, Shops and Markets Inspector.

### CAMPING SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licensed sites within the Borough, and no application for such has been received.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The number of smoke observations, each of thirty minutes duration, made during the year was 583. Each of the 46 factory chimneys was observed.

Twenty-two chimneys, observed on 151 occasions, showed no emissions of black smoke, a very creditable performance. From the remaining chimneys, black smoke was emitted on 128 occasions, but in 93 cases this was of less than two minutes' duration, and in many instances for only a few seconds.

A table of comparison over the last four years of observations revealing emissions of black smoke in excess of two minutes is set out below:

No. of observations .....	1954	1953	1952	1951
	583	589	509	343
Emissions of black smoke:				
Full 30 minutes .....	—	—	1	—
Over 25 minutes but less than 30 minutes	—	1	—	2
„ 20 „ „ „ 25 „	2	1	2	2
„ 15 „ „ „ 20 „	—	2	1	5
„ 10 „ „ „ 15 „	3	—	3	10
„ 5 „ „ „ 10 „	12	3	12	30
„ 2 „ „ „ 5 „	18	19	15	55
Totals .....	35	26	34	104

	1954	1953	1952	1951
Percentage of observations showing black smoke emissions of over 2 minutes ...	6%	4.4%	6.6%	30.3%

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During the year several local industrialists were contacted with a view to installing modern boilerhouse equipment to effect improvements in the burning of fuel and smoke emission. The case of a local firm was cited as an example: over a period, new equipment has been installed and adjustments made to the existing boiler, at a cost of £1,100. This resulted in a saving of £900 per year in fuel bills alone, as well as reducing smoke emission to the minimum light haze.

A number of boilerhouse personnel have attended courses on boilerhouse practice, and it is evident that many have profited from their studies, for their chimneys are usually seen to be free from black and moderate smoke. If some financial incentive, in the form of a bonus based on performance, were paid to all personnel who were successful in attaining the standard required by these examinations, the savings in health and money would be considerable. The saving in the cost of fuel now going to waste up the chimney could be calculated, but the improved health conditions due to the absence of the excess of harmful gases discharged to the atmosphere would be inestimable. Consider, too, the saving in domestic washing, the longer life of paintwork, and of metalwork, the cessation of erosion of stonework of houses and public buildings, the increased vigour with which vegetation and plant life would grow, and the sheer joy of just seeing the sun unsullied by drifting smoke.

It is to be hoped that the days when the only qualifications of a boiler fireman were that he was strong and able to get up early in the morning are passing, and that his place will be taken by a highly skilled man, who knows his boilerplant, and will let that do the work for him. As one engineer said, "I like to see my fireman sitting down; I know he's not wasting money then."

Although much of the atmospheric pollution of our town arises from factories, the householder is not entirely blameless. There are only 46 factory chimneys, but, even at only one fire per house, there are well over 12,000 house chimneys adding their contribution to foul the air. The over-night fires, banked up with slack, continue

to pollute the air during darkness, so that they may be a mixed blessing. The increased use of smokeless fuels would do much to reduce this form of pollution.

The recordings of atmospheric pollution, commenced in March, 1952, were continued during the year, and the attached graph shows figures obtained since the inception of the scheme. The dotted black line represents the deposits of insoluble solids, the continuous black line, starred at the apices, represents the soluble solid deposits, and the upper red line represents the sum of these two recordings. The figures shown are expressed in the form of tons deposited per square mile per month.

The atmospheric pollution recording gauge is installed at the Meteorological Station in Walton Lane, on the north eastern fringe of the built-up area of the town. In addition to the apparatus which collects the solid pollution, there is also an instrument for measuring the sulphur dioxide present in the air. The following table shows the recordings obtained since the station has been in operation. The amounts are expressed as milligrams of sulphur trioxide fixed per day per 100 square centimetres of standard lead peroxide on the lead peroxide candle specially prepared for the purpose.

	1952	1953	1954
January .....	—	4.35	2.42
February .....	—	3.07	1.95
March .....	2.02	2.66	2.80
April .....	1.70	1.70	2.02
May .....	—	1.15	1.50
June .....	1.31	0.87	1.87
July .....	0.93	1.30	1.61
August .....	1.33	1.74	1.76
September .....	1.43	1.74	2.27
October .....	1.99	2.29	3.35
November .....	2.29	1.83	3.42
December .....	3.47	3.38	3.67
	—	—	—
Totals	16.47	26.08	28.64
	—	—	—
Average per month ...	1.83	2.17	2.39

It must be remembered that all these figures refer to the extent of pollution of only one small area of the town, namely the site of the station and its environs. Since the station was established, a



housing estate has been developed nearby, so that pollution from house chimneys will be recorded from houses situate both to the north and south of the station. This may well account for the slight increases recorded in the sulphur dioxide readings. Over the months since the station has been in use, there is a roughly comparable rise and fall in the figures obtained, they being the lowest in the summer months when there are less domestic fires burning.

This seasonal change is not borne out on considering the figures of solid deposits. In 1952, for instance, the lowest and highest amounts so far recorded are seen to have occurred in November and December respectively.

There is much research yet to be done in the study of movements of smoke drift: there are many factors to take into account, including the nature and density of the smoke, the size of grit particles in the smoke, the speed and direction of the wind, the humidity of the atmosphere, the relative temperatures of different layers of air, and barometric pressure.

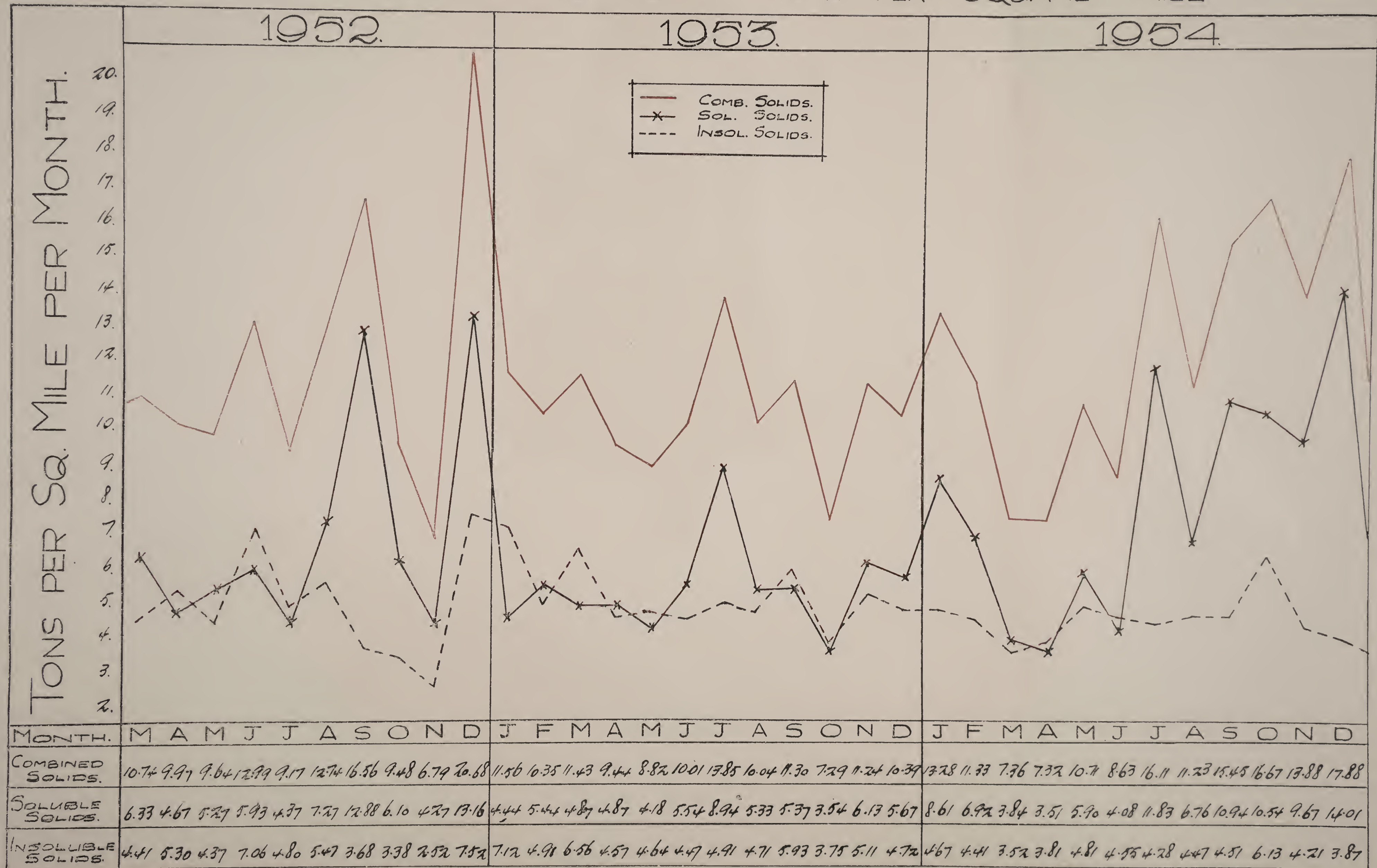
Any attempt to draw a conclusion from the figures of atmospheric deposit over the last 33 months is handicapped by the fact that there is only one recording station in the town. A site for an additional station nearer the town centre was approved some time ago, but the station has not been established. With only one recording station, the amounts of deposit depend so much on wind direction. A south-west wind will carry with it pollution from the town: a change to an east wind brings only clean air to the recording apparatus.

Reference to the graph will show that the lowest amounts were recorded in March and April, and the highest in December, giving figures of 7.36 tons, 7.32 tons and 17.88 tons per square mile respectively. Over the twelve months, the total solids amounted to 149.85 tons, an average of 12.49 tons per month.





# ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSIT MONTHLY IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE







## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Facilities for swimming are provided at the Corporation Baths in Bradley Road, where there are swimming pools for males and females, together with slipper baths. Open air swimming can take place at the Swimming Pool in Marsden Park.

Water filtration and chlorination plants are in operation at both premises.

## DISINFESTATION.

The disinfestation of 19 houses, found to be verminous through various types of insect life, was carried out during the year. Four of these infestations occurred in houses owned by the Corporation.

The premises were disinfested by smoke generation and residual spray methods.

## RODENT CONTROL.

This work is carried out under the direction of Mr. V. Robinson, Director of Cleansing, and 1,077 inspections were made for that purpose. Rat infestations were treated at 63 dwellinghouses, 34 business premises, and 13 other properties owned by the Corporation. Seventy-two infestations of mice were treated, 44 of them at dwellinghouses, the remaining 28 at business premises.

## SCHOOLS.

There are twenty-four schools within the district, at which the standards of sanitary accommodation and hand washing facilities vary considerably. Work has been done at a number of the schools, resulting in improvements to the sanitary accommodation. Seven urinals have been provided with a flush pipe, and two blocks of urinals have been repaired. At another school, the entrances to the urinals have been screened from the playground, and the doors to the water closet compartments provided with panes of glass and vent holes, to give natural light and ventilation to the compartments. At other schools, yard surfaces and pathways have been repaired in three instances, a broken man-hole cover has been renewed, a defective dustbin has been replaced and a low pressure supply of water remedied.

At 15 schools, facilities for hand washing are considered to be unsatisfactory, in that there is no constant supply of hot water. It is expected that this situation will be partially remedied during the



coming year, since schemes for the provision of piped supplies of hot water at some schools are in hand.

Six schools have unsatisfactory yard surfaces.

Certain improvements have also been carried out at one of the school kitchens. These included the renewal of a worn sink and draining boards, and repairs to a defective concrete floor in a food storage room.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades established in the district.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections		Number of : Written Notices		Occupiers Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	37	...	14	...	1	...	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority .....	310	...	89	...	9	...	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
Total .....	347	...	103	...	11	...	—

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness .....	2	1	—	2	—
Ineffective drainage of floors...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .....	4	3	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	12	5	—	6	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) .....	2	1	—	—	—
Total .....	21	11	—	10	—

#### 3. Outwork: One notification, referring to textile weaving, has been received during the year.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES, HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, AND UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

There are no such premises in the Borough.

### **CANAL BOATS.**

Although visits are made from time to time to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal running through the district, it was only possible on one occasion to board and inspect a canal boat. No infringements of the Acts were observed.

### **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.**

There are eight registered premises on which rag flock or other filling materials are used in the manufacture of furniture, etc.

Samples of Kapok were taken on two occasions, and were both reported upon by the prescribed analysts as satisfactory.

### **CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.**

This remains the conversion of waste water closets to fresh water closets. As noted in a previous paragraph, 198 such conversions were carried out during the year, but there is still a predominance of waste water closets over fresh water closets, namely 6,611 as against 6,519.

### **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.**

There are four premises registered for the sale of pet animals under the above Act. Five inspections were made during the year, when no contraventions of the Act were observed.



## Housing



The general standard of housing was maintained during the year. The defects found are largely due to uneconomic rentals preventing the regular maintenance of property by the owners. Approximately two-thirds of the defects found referred to external work, notably weatherproofing. The continued lack of spells of fine weather delayed the execution of a large amount of external work.

A closer liaison was maintained between property owners and repairers and this Department. The number of interviews and meetings with owners and contractors rose from 61 to 204 during the year. This policy of discussing the job on the site has much to commend it.

The number of defects found in dwellinghouses was more than double the 1953 figure, 985 as against 426. A total of 458 defects were remedied during the year most of them as the result of informal action. The number of visits paid to dwellinghouses for the purposes of inspections and re-inspections was 925, when 202 houses were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

Informal action was taken on 202 occasions, and in 98 cases the necessary work has been completed during the year. It was found necessary, due to various changes of circumstances to cancel 9 notices, covering some 54 defects. In addition 47 informal notices served during the previous year were complied with. These notices referred to 185 defects.

Formal action was found to be necessary on 11 occasions, and at the end of the year 6 of these notices had been complied with.

The following table shows details of work carried out during the year:

	Found Remedied During 1954		Found in 1953 Remedied in 1954	
<b>Roofs.</b>				
Defective roof .....	63	13	...	10
Defective tabling .....	6	1	...	—
Defective chimney stacks .....	13	5	...	1
Defective chimney pots .....	5	—	...	1
Defective chimney flashings .....	1	1	...	3
Defective lead flashings .....	1	1	...	—
Defective eaves guttering.....	82	25	...	11
Defective rainwater pipe .....	51	17	...	9

Defective window frames .....	89	12	...	17
Defective window pane .....	1	1	...	—
<b>Walls (external).</b>				
Defective walls .....	8	—	...	6
Defective pointing .....	51	11	...	8
Defective stonework .....	1	—	...	—
Dampness .....	37	6	...	4
<b>Doors.</b>				
Defective doorsteps .....	15	1	...	—
Defective doors .....	—	—	...	5
<b>Yards.</b>				
Defective yard surface .....	21	7	...	2
<b>Windows.</b>				
Defective sashcords .....	64	14	...	17
<b>W.C. Accommodation.</b>				
Obstructed w.w.c. ....	4	2	...	—
Defective w.c. compartment structure .....	21	8	...	2
Defective w.c. compartment door/frame .....	22	6	...	—
Defective w.c. compartment roof .....	19	4	...	3
Defective w.c. compartment wallplaster .....	1	1	...	1
Defective w.c. compartment ceiling plaster .....	1	1	...	—
Defective w.c. compartment floor .....	5	—	...	3
Defective waste water closet ...	2	2	...	—
Defective fresh water closet .....	6	3	...	—
Defective w.c. seat .....	—	—	...	5
Defective w.c. cistern .....	4	2	...	1
Defective w.c. vent pipe .....	3	—	...	1
Defective w.c. soil pipe .....	1	1	...	—
Defective w.c. ball tap .....	1	1	...	—
Absence of water supply to w.c.	1	1	...	—
<b>Coal Store.</b>				
Defective door .....	4	—	...	—
Defective structure .....	2	—	...	—

Improper fuel store .....	I	I	...	—
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**Drainage.**

Defective or obstructed drain ...	43	33	...	4
Defective tippler .....	14	8	...	—
Defective dishbrick .....	3	2	...	2

**Gates.**

Defective yard gate .....	4	—	...	I
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**Staircases.**

Defective/lack of handrail .....	23	2	...	4
Defective treads or risers .....	3	—	...	I

**Ceilings.**

Defective ceiling plaster .....	62	15	...	11
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**Walls (internal).**

Defective wallplaster .....	94	29	...	23
Defective skirting boards .....	10	2	...	—

**Floors.**

Defective wood floor .....	23	4	...	3
Defective stone floor .....	7	I	...	—
Insufficient sub-floor ventilation	I	—	...	—

**Sinks.**

Defective sink .....	10	5	...	2
Defective sink waste pipe .....	11	3	...	12

**Firegrates, Flues, etc.**

Defective chimney flue .....	5	—	...	—
Defective firegrate .....	20	6	...	4
Defective fireback .....	21	5	...	2

**Miscellaneous.**

Defective water supply .....	I	I	...	—
Burst water pipe .....	4	2	...	—
Insufficient ventilation .....	3	2	...	—
Lack of artificial lighting .....	I	I	...	—
Dangerous light switches .....	I	—	...	—
Defective storage cupboard .....	I	—	...	—
Defective painting .....	4	—	...	—
Lack of refuse storage .....	I	—	...	—

Accumulation of refuse in yard	5	4	...	—
Dirty house/room .....	1	—	...	4
Rodent infestation .....	2	—	...	2
	<hr/>			<hr/>
Totals .....	985	273	...	185
	<hr/>			<hr/>

In addition to the foregoing defects remedied during the year at dwellinghouses, the following table gives details of work carried out at other premises, but does not include food preparation premises, which are dealt with in a later section.

	Found Remedied During 1954		Found in 1953 Remedied in 1954	
Defective wall .....	1	—	...	—
Defective pointing .....	—	—	...	1
Defective wallplaster .....	2	1	...	—
Defective ceiling plaster .....	1	1	...	1
Defective floor .....	1	1	...	—
Defective floor covering .....	1	1	...	—
Defective window .....	1	—	...	1
Defective door .....	1	1	...	2
Defective yard .....	2	1	...	—
Defective rainwater guttering/ pipe .....	5	—	...	—
Defective drain .....	6	6	...	1
Defective sink .....	—	—	...	1
Defective sink waste pipe .....	1	1	...	—
Defective water closet .....	1	—	...	—
Defective w.c. roof .....	1	—	...	—
Defective w.c. floor .....	1	—	...	—
Defective w.c. flushing system .	2	—	...	—
Lack of screening to w.c. ....	3	3	...	—
Defective fireplace .....	—	—	...	1
Lack of hand washing facilities	1	1	...	—
Insufficient supply of hot water	2	—	...	1
Dirty walls/ceilings .....	8	4	...	4
Dirty floor .....	1	1	...	—
Accumulation of r u b b i s h / manure .....	6	2	...	2
Inadequate manure storage ....	1	—	...	—
Inadequate drainage .....	1	—	...	—
Defective dustbin .....	1	1	...	—
	<hr/>			<hr/>
Totals .....	51	25	...	15
	<hr/>			<hr/>



## Number of new houses erected during the year:

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the local authority .....	45	—
(ii) By other local authorities .....	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons .....	—	—

## 1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:—

(i) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected formally or informally for housing defects .....	202
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose .....	925
(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses included in (i) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations .....	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	Nil
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	Nil
(iv) Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	202

## 2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	145
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## 3. Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	Nil
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which, after service of notice, were rendered fit:	
(a) by owners .....	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners .....	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners .....	6
(b) by local authority in default of owners .....	Nil

- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 (Demolition) ..... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 (Underground rooms) ..... Nil
- (e) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 (Clearance Areas) ..... Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..... Not known
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..... —
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..... —
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... 2
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... 2
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..... 11

5. Housing Acts, 1949-54—Improvement Grants, etc.:—

- |     |   | Schemes of<br>private bodies<br>or individuals |     | Schemes of<br>Local<br>Authority |
|-----|---|--|-----|----------------------------------|
| (a) | (i) Number of schemes submitted   |  |     |                                  |
|     | (a) by private individuals to local authority .....   | 33   | ... | —                                |
|     | (b) by local authority to Ministry .  | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
|     | (ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected .....   | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
| (b) | (i) Number of Schemes finally approved  | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
|     | (ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected .....   | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
|     | (iii) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved Schemes .....                 | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
| (c) | Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year .....                                | Nil  | ... | Nil                              |
| (d) | Any other action taken under the Act ... Corporation not yet approved 1949/54 Housing Act (Improvement Grants). |  |     |                                  |

### **SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES.**

At the end of the year there were approximately 200 empty houses in the district, but with very few exceptions these were all for sale. The demand for houses to let remains, and it is estimated that the demand for Council houses, with modern amenities, remains much the same as last year's figure.

To meet this the erection of 33 Council houses was in progress during the year, and the provision of a further 33 houses was contemplated.

### **OVERCROWDING.**

Five cases were investigated during the year, only two of which were found to be cases of statutory overcrowding. These two cases, and two of the other three cases, were recommended to the Corporation Housing Department for priority in re-housing. Two of the families were re-housed during the year.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.



## MILK SUPPLY.

The number of different milks produced or sold within the Borough rose slightly last year to 67. It will be noted that the designation "Accredited" is no longer in use — this grade of milk was discontinued on 30th September. As a result, some producers had the necessary tests and examinations of their cattle carried out, and became entitled to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold by them. Other former producers of accredited milk reverted to producing non-designated milk.

At the year end, the milks produced or sold within the district were contained in the following designations:

Tuberculin Tested .....	39
Non-designated .....	17
Pasteurised .....	3
T.T. Pasteurised .....	4
Sterilised .....	4

Of this number, 23 milks are produced in the Borough. Eleven of these are Tuberculin Tested milks, and the other twelve are non-designated milks. Nine of these milks, seven T.T. milks and two non-designated milks, are retailed in the district, the remaining fourteen milks being sold wholesale to pasteurising dairies outside the district.

The sources of supply of the various grades of milk sold retail within the district are shown below:—

	Produced in district		Produced outside district		Total
Tuberculin Tested .....	7	...	28	...	35
Non-designated .....	2	...	5	...	7
Pasteurised .....	—	...	3	...	3
T.T. Pasteurised .....	—	...	4	...	4
Sterilised .....	—	...	4	...	4
Total .....	9	...	44	...	53

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949—

No. of registered distributors operating from:

(a) Dairies in the district .....	9
(b) Dairy farms in the district .....	nil
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies .....	118
(d) Premises outside the district .....	24

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, 30 dealers' licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" were issued. Under the corresponding Regulations governing heat-treated milks, licences were issued to 31 retail distributors of "Pasteurised" milk and 120 retail distributors of "Sterilised" milk.

The number of samples of milk tested again showed a rise over the previous year's figures, amounting this year to 264 samples, as against 236 samples obtained last year. Of this number, 251 were samples of raw milk. The table shows the number of samples taken in each category of milk, and the sample results. It will be seen that five samples of "Accredited" milk were obtained. These were taken before that grade of milk ceased to exist at the beginning of October.

	Biological tests		Methylene Blue tests				Totals
	Neg.	Pos.		Satis.	Unsatis.		
Tuberculin Tested Milk .....	71	—	...	74	3	...	148
Accredited Milk .....	2	—	...	3	—	...	5
Non-designated Milk .....	44	3	...	43	7	...	97
Totals .....	117	3	...	120	10	...	250

In addition to these 250 samples, one sample of Tuberculin Tested milk was submitted to B.Coli examination, with a satisfactory result.

All three Tuberculin Tested milks which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test for keeping quality were retailed in the district. Of the seven non-designated milks which failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test, three were retailed in the district, the remaining four being wholesaled for pasteurisation.

These figures show an appreciable improvement over the previous year's sampling figures, when 34 out of 236 milks failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test. Fourteen of these were Tuberculin Tested milks, 2 Accredited milks, and 18 non-designated milks. The percentage comparison is 4 per cent. unsatisfactory milks

this year against 14.4 per cent. last year.

In addition to the samples of raw milk obtained, nine samples of pasteurised milks were submitted for phosphatase tests, and four samples of Sterilised milks were submitted for turbidity tests. All these samples passed the prescribed tests.

Immediately upon receipt from the laboratory of the three samples of non-designated milks returning positive results to the biological test, the information was passed on to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries so that the necessary examinations and tests could be carried out at the farms. All three cases arose on farms outside the district. The retail sale of such milk was prohibited unless the milk was first heat-treated.

### FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foodstuffs were inspected and found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered voluntarily for destruction.

Food.	Containers.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
<b>Fruit.</b>					
Apricots .....	29		1	13	8
Blackcurrants .....	2			2	0
Cherries .....	520	4	1	5	9½
Damsons .....	12			21	12
Fruit Salad .....	27		1	3	8
Gooseberries .....	2			1	15
Grapefruit .....	8			8	4
Greengages .....	5			8	1
Oranges .....	31			21	5
Peaches .....	65		2	26	2½
Pears .....	188	1	3	2	8½
Pineapples .....	70		2	20	3
Plums .....	578	6	0	27	10
Prunes .....	2			13	0
Raspberries .....	5			4	9½
Strawberries .....	23			14	10
Tomatoes .....	38			26	2
<hr/>					
Total .....	1605	15	1	24	12

### Meat.

Beef .....	4			8	7
Beef, corned .....	40		5	21	2
Beef loaf .....	12			25	2
Chicken .....	9			27	8

Food.	Containers.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Chicken paste .....	I				$1\frac{1}{4}$
Ham .....	47	5	0	12	6
Liver .....	I			2	3
Meat and Gravy .....	4			4	0
Meat loaf .....	3			2	4
Meat, luncheon .....	40			24	13
Pork .....	9			12	0
Poultry .....	—		I	18	0
Sausage .....	I		2	3	12
Sirloin .....	—			8	0
Steak, stewed .....	37		I	20	14
Stew, Irish .....	13			13	0
Tongue .....	29		4	18	9
Veal .....	6		I	8	0
Total .....	256	10	2	6	$1\frac{1}{4}$

**Vegetables.**

Barley .....	13			13	0
Beans .....	70		I	21	$8\frac{1}{2}$
Carrots .....	3			3	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Peas .....	133	I	0	0	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Potatoes .....	5	I	3	14	0
Spaghetti .....	36			18	0
Mixed .....	2			I	5
Total .....	262	3	2	15	$1\frac{1}{2}$

**Fish.**

Crawfish .....	4			I	I
Fish .....	—			21	0
Fish Cake, fried .....	I				7
Pilchards .....	4			4	0
Prawns .....	11			2	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Salmon .....	10			3	$8\frac{1}{4}$
Shrimps .....	5			I	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Tuna .....	2				15
Total .....	37		I	6	$5\frac{1}{2}$



Food.	Containers.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>					
Broth .....	1				10
Cake .....	—		3	13	8
Cheese .....	36			23	12
Coffee .....	4			1	0
Cream .....	8			2	5
Egg .....	9		2	18	5
Fat .....	—			2	0
Jam .....	19			20	0
Milk .....	148		4	26	3
Sauce .....	3			1	5
Soup .....	43		1	11	0½
<hr/>					
Total .....	271	3	2	8	0½
<hr/>					
Grand Total .....	2431	33	2	4	4¾
<hr/>					

**MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**

The Government control of livestock buying and slaughtering and the rationing of meat, were discontinued in July, when butchers were free to buy and slaughter their own animals. As a result of this decontrol, applications were received from three firms to re-open their private slaughterhouses.

One slaughterhouses premises was fit in all respects and another was capable of being rendered so with comparatively minor alterations and improvements. These were carried out, and the two premises were duly licensed, and came into operation immediately following decontrol in July. The third slaughterhouse was in a rather worse condition, and an application to re-license the premises was refused by the local authority. The Council later passed a Resolution in accordance with the terms of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954, restricting the renewal of any slaughterhouse licence after 31st December, 1954, save the two licences already granted.

The owners of the third slaughterhouse appealed against the decision of the local authority not to grant a renewal of their slaughterhouse licence, and the case was heard before the court of summary jurisdiction. The magistrates allowed the appeal and directed that the local authority serve upon the owners a Notice specifying the work required to render the premises suitable for use

as a slaughterhouse. This notice, which also acted as a licence to use the premises, was duly served, and expired early in 1955. The terms of the Notice were complied with in October, and slaughtering commenced on these premises in November.

In the meantime, the owners of this slaughterhouse, together with other interested parties, appealed to the Ministry of Food against the various terms of the Resolution, and an Informal Inquiry was held by the Minister in December. The Minister's decision was not known at the year end.

The additional responsibilities of meat inspection occasioned by the re-opening of the three private slaughterhouses takes up many hours of the inspectors' time, both in ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection. It is felt that, in order to be in possession of all the evidence afforded by the carcass and the full offal, it is necessary for an Inspector to be on duty in the slaughterhouse during the whole of the time that slaughtering of cattle, and more especially cows, is taking place. This has meant spending many hours overtime on night work and weekend work, when the Inspector is torn between loyalty to family and his conscience.

More than 4,000 animals were slaughtered from July onwards, over half of which were slaughtered in the last two months of the year. 313 visits were made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection. The table given below shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected.

Month	Bulls	Steers	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
July ... ..	—	8	7	7	2	125	10	159
August... ..	—	14	36	3	7	368	19	447
September ... ..	—	14	25	2	3	475	41	560
October ... ..	—	28	14	1	7	639	62	751
November ... ..	—	40	39	23	4	1095	126	1327
December ... ..	1	28	37	26	1	638	192	923
Totals ... ..	1	132	158	62	24	3340	450	4167

All animals slaughtered are inspected as to their fitness for human consumption, and the following table shows the numbers and percentages found to be affected with Tuberculosis and Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	291	62	24	3340	450
Number Inspected ... ..	291	62	24	3340	450
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	1	—	3	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ..	199	26	—	597	56
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ... ..	68.3%	43.5%	—	17.9%	13.1%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	1	4	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ..	23	19	—	—	24
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	8.2%	37.1%	—	—	5.3%

During this period of six months, eight carcasses of beef, representing 2.27 per cent., were found to be affected with cysticercus bovis, and were placed in cold storage for the necessary period. Of the eight cases, two were found to affect cows, four affected heifers, and two affected steers.

The weights of carcasses and organs found to be unfit for human consumption are given in the table below:

	Whole Carcasses (Pounds)	Part Carcasses (Pounds)	Organs (Pounds)	Totals (Pounds)
All diseases except Tuberculosis ... ..	1358	723	3226½	5307½
Tuberculosis only ... ..	2411	1027	1452	4890
Totals ... ..	3769	1750	4678½	10197½

All meat and offal found to be unfit for human consumption is removed immediately to a central storage depot under the control of this department. Arrangements have been made with a firm



specialising in the treatment for fertilizer, etc., of such meat and offal for it to be collected twice weekly. This leads to hygienic practice in the slaughterhouses, since no diseased meat is left on the premises after the day's slaughtering, and ensures that all such meat is safely disposed of so as to prevent its being used for human or animal consumption. The whole of the money received by the sale of this meat and offal is passed on to the owners, and up to year end, this has amounted to over £70. Just before year end, a change was made to a firm offering increased prices for diseased meat, and this will help the owners of such meat still further to offset their losses.

In connection with the Fatstock Guarantee Scheme operated by the Ministry of Food, the meat inspectors have been appointed Certifying Officers for pigs slaughtered on a deadweight basis, and all pigs slaughtered at one slaughterhouse are presented for certification.

### FOOD PREMISES.

More than 1,200 visits were made to various types of premises where food is manufactured, prepared or sold for human consumption. These were divided between the various types of business as shown below.

Type of business	Number	No. of visits
Bakehouses .....	85	... 166
Butchers .....	59	... 209
Dairies .....	9	... 21
Fishmongers .....	37	... 15
Fish Friers .....	33	... 71
Ice Cream Manufacturers .....	4	... 7
Ice Cream Retailers .....	124	... 60
Licensed Premises .....	13	... 21
Other food shops .....	166	... 370
Slaughterhouses .....	3	... 313
Total	533	... 1263

The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture of preserved food is given below:



Type of business	No. registered.
Bakers and Confectioners .....	85
Catering Establishments .....	5
Butchers .....	37
Grocery and mixed .....	4
Fish friers/steak puddings .....	2
Cooked meats, etc. ....	3
	<hr/>
Total .....	136
	<hr/>

### DEFECTS FOUND IN FOOD PREMISES.

The number of defects found in food preparation premises and shops was 311 of which 154 were remedied during the year as a result of informal action. In addition, 103 defects found the previous year were remedied, resulting in 257 improvements carried out during the year.

### DEFECTS FOUND AND RESULTS AT YEAR END.

Type of business	Defects found	Remedied
Food preparation .....	188	93
Food shop .....	96	59
Catering .....	39	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total .....	323	154
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The defects found and remedied during the year are detailed in the table given below:

Defect	Found Remedied During 1954			Found in 1953 Remedied in 1954	
Defective roof .....	5	...	4	...	1
Defective rainwater pipe .....	4	...	3	...	3
Defective eaves gutter .....	1	...	1	...	1
Defective gully .....	1	...	1	...	—
Defective drain .....	4	...	4	...	—
Obstructed drain .....	1	...	—	...	—
Defective waste water closet .....	2	...	1	...	—
Defective closet structure .....	4	...	2	...	2
Inadequate w.c. accommodation	2	...	2	...	—
Defective wallplaster .....	25	...	11	...	13

Defective ceiling plaster .....	14	...	6	...	6
Defective floor .....	19	...	8	...	7
Defective floor covering .....	5	...	1	...	1
Defective skirting boards .....	1	...	1	...	—
Defective window frame .....	5	...	2	...	1
Defective door/frame .....	8	...	5	...	1
Defective yard .....	—	...	—	...	1
Defective sink waste pipe .....	1	...	—	...	—
Defective sink .....	7	...	3	...	5
Defective equipment .....	21	...	10	...	2
Defective window display slab ..	6	...	4	...	2
Lack of i.v.s. to sanitary accommodation .....	—	...	—	...	1
Defective w.c. seat .....	—	...	—	...	1
Dirty walls or ceilings .....	101	...	53	...	30
Dirty floors .....	10	...	4	...	2
Dirty yard surfaces .....	1	...	—	...	—
Dirty equipment .....	8	...	3	...	4
Dirty w.c. compartment .....	2	...	—	...	1
Lack of w.c. compartment fastener .....	1	...	—	...	—
Lack of w.c. compartment indicator .....	2	...	—	...	—
Absence of lighting in w.c. compartment .....	—	...	—	...	1
Inadequate food protection .....	11	...	9	...	2
Absence of washing facilities ....	—	...	—	...	1
Absence of towels .....	—	...	—	...	1
Absence of hand washing notice	12	...	3	...	—
Absence of hot water supply ....	9	...	3	...	1
Insufficient hot water supply ....	2	...	—	...	3
Absence of refuse accommodation	3	...	1	...	—
Insufficient refuse accommodation	3	...	2	...	4
Accumulation of rubbish .....	8	...	2	...	2
Insufficient fuel storage accommodation .....	—	...	—	...	1
Inadequate ventilation .....	6	...	4	...	—
Improper storage of clothing ....	2	...	1	...	—
Improper use of room .....	1	...	—	...	2
Insect infestation .....	2	...	—	...	—
Rodent infestation .....	1	...	—	...	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-50.

This authority is not a Food and Drugs Authority, and the work in this field is done by the Lancashire County Council. I am indebted to Dr. S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following details of samples procured during the year.

A total of 176 samples was obtained; of these 98 were of milk and the 78 others comprised:—

2 Salt	2 Spongs cake and sponge
1 Baking powder	pudding mixture
2 Sugar	1 Pancake and Yorkshire pudding
1 Golden raising powder	mixture
1 Pepper flavoured compound	4 Fruit, canned
2 Boric acid ointment	2 Spice mixed, ground
5 Saccharin tablets	3 Custard powder
1 Plurivite tablets	1 Cinnamon, ground
1 Cheese cake mixture, sweetened	2 Plain flour
2 Cheese spread	2 Semolina
1 Mixed spice	1 Ginger, ground
1 Table creams	1 Saxin
2 Barley	3 Penicillin tablets B.P.
2 White pepper	1 Brandy flavouring
1 Treacle	1 Lemon flavouring
1 Syrup	2 Cream cakes
2 Cod liver oil	2 Meat pies
2 Olive oil	2 Beef sausages
2 Aspirin tablets	1 Fish cakes
3 Arrowroot	1 Cooking fat
3 Castor oil	4 Whisky
3 Camphorated oil	1 Rum

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 formal milk .....	Deficient 1.6% fat .....	Vendor notified.
1 table cream .....	Consisted of table jelly compound as defined in the Food Standards (Table Jellies) Order, 1949. The Labelling of Food Order requires the common or usual name of the food to be specified on the label ...	Packers communicated with.
1 cream cake .....	Filling consisted of sweetened imitation cream .....	Formal sample advised.

### ICE CREAM.

There are 124 premises registered for the retail sale of ice cream, and 5 premises manufacturing ice cream. The products of sixteen manufacturers are on sale within the Borough, and samples were taken of each and subjected to the Methylene Blue test, with results as given below:

Grade 1 .....	29
Grade 2 .....	15
Grade 3 .....	nil
Grade 4 .....	1

Grades 1 and 2 can be regarded as passing the test satisfactorily, the two lower grades indicating unsatisfactory samples. It is of interest to note that all the samples of local manufacture were satisfactory, eleven of them being placed in Grade 1, and two in Grade 2.

### HEALTH EDUCATION.

As in former years, the policy of on-the-spot instruction in hygienic measures to food handlers was continued, with good results. It is found that practical difficulties can be talked over, to the mutual satisfaction of the trader and the inspector.





Prevalence of, and Control over  
Infectious Diseases.

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS).

The number of notifications received was less than half the total received in 1953, the main differences being the number of cases of Measles, 98 against 576, and Whooping Cough, 95 against 144. There were, however, almost double the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, 119 against 65, and 53 cases of Dysentery. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year, the first time since 1950.

Comparing the 1954 figures with the averages for the previous five years the main differences were the number of cases of scarlet fever. This was double the average. The number of cases of measles was less than a third of the average, and the number of cases of dysentery was thirteen times the average.

On a case incidence basis compared with England and Wales as a whole, the only figures of note are those for scarlet fever and dysentery, which were four times and twice the national figure respectively.

Scarlet fever and whooping cough were prevalent throughout the year, but particularly during the first quarter, whilst most of the cases of measles were notified during the last quarter.

An outbreak of dysentery of the Sonn  type occurred during the early months of the year. It affected the two nursery schools and two of the infants' schools. The schools affected were visited and advice given to the staff on hygiene precautions. Headteachers were advised that all children showing any symptoms should be sent home and their parents advised to seek advice and treatment if necessary from their own medical practitioners. This disease which is more troublesome than dangerous, is often difficult to control on account of symptomless carriers, but these methods sufficed. The school staffs were very co-operative, particularly at the nursery schools, and the attendances were back to normal again in from three to four weeks' time.

The food poisoning cases were all incidental in nature and in no case was the diagnosis confirmed by laboratory findings.

The continual absence of diphtheria, there having been no case in Nelson since 1948, depends largely upon the adequate immunisations of children. It is doubtlessly a tribute to the County Council scheme whereby parents may have their children immunised by their

own medical advisers or at the Child Welfare Centre. Much publicity is given to this scheme both by posters, etc., and advice given by medical staff of the Divisional Health Office. Immunisation is maintained at a fairly high level, but there is still scope for improvement and parents should realise that the present freedom from diphtheria should not give rise to complacency with regard to immunisation. The scheme is still maintained whereby any medical practitioner requiring a supply of diphtheria-antitoxin can obtain same free of charge from a small stock maintained by the Health Department, but kept at the Police Station for reasons of availability.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

This is provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee at Marsden Hospital, Burnley, for all infectious diseases with the exception of smallpox. There are, however, occasions when accommodation thereat is not available and arrangements are then made through the Bed Bureau for admission of the patient to an isolation hospital under the control of a neighbouring Hospital Management Committee.

During the year 29 patients were admitted to Infectious Diseases Hospitals, a reduction of 7 on the number admitted during the previous year.

The following tables show:—

1. Analysis, according to the disease and age of patient of cases notified during the year.
2. Comparison of Infectious Diseases figures for 1954 with those of the previous year.
3. Comparison of Infectious Diseases figures for 1954 with those of the previous five years and average.
4. Monthly incidence of notified cases during 1954.
5. Ward analysis of notifications during 1954.
6. Comparison of case rates for certain diseases for England and Wales and Nelson for the year 1954.



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases	AGE PERIODS								Number removed to hosp'l.	Deaths
		Under 1	1 — 3	3 — 5	5 — 10	10 — 15	15 — 25	25 — 45	45 — 65 and over		
Scarlet Fever ...	119	—	4	33	75	6	1	—	—	21	—
Measles ...	98	1	30	39	28	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	95	6	23	36	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	27	—	—	1	4	2	—	10	6	—	15
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis—Infective	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Post Infectious	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	53	3	7	19	19	—	3	1	1	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	9	—	1	1	4	—	2	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	408	11	66	129	160	8	7	14	9	29	15

## COMPARISON OF FIGURES FOR 1954 WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

Notifiable diseases	Cases		Cases removed to Hospital		Deaths	
	Notified 1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Scarlet Fever .....	119	65	21	18	—	—
Measles .....	98	576	1	5	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	95	144	—	3	—	—
Pneumonia .....	27	26	—	—	15	9
Puerperal pyrexia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection .....	—	1	—	1	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis-paralytic...	—	3	—	3	—	—
non-paralytic	—	1	—	1	—	—
Acute encephalitis—Infective...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Post Infectious	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	53	—	6	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	3	6	—	3	—	—
Malaria .....	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	9	11	—	2	—	—
Totals ... ..	408	834	29	36	15	9

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS).

COMPARISON OF 1954 FIGURES WITH FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS  
5 YEARS AND AVERAGE.

Notifiable disease	Notifications received during:					Total for 5 yrs.	Average number per yr.	Notifi- cations 1954
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953			
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	47	52	61	88	65	313	62.6	119
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	0.2	—
Paratyphoid .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	79	577	190	118	576	1540	308.0	98
Whooping Cough .....	9	247	45	76	144	521	104.2	95
Pneumonia .....	21	10	36	33	26	126	25.2	27
Puerperal pyrexia .....	2	1	2	—	—	5	1.0	1
Meningococcal infection.....	—	—	1	—	1	2	0.4	—
Acute poliomyelitis								
Paralytic .....	1	—	2	4	3	10	2.0	—
Non-paralytic .....	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.2	—
Acute Encephalitis								
Infective .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Post Infectious.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery .....	—	2	18	1	—	21	4.2	53
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	2	0.4	1
Erysipelas .....	5	2	—	1	6	14	2.8	3
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.2	—
Food Poisoning* .....	—	—	13	8	11	32	6.4	9
Totals ... ..	165	892	368	330	834	2589	517.8	408

\*Notifiable from 1951.

## MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	12	19	12	11	11	8	4	10	5	17	8	2	119
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	1	—	2	1	—	3	2	3	13	23	26	24	98
Whooping Cough ...	2	12	37	13	5	3	1	5	1	—	9	7	95
Acute Pneumonia ...	3	2	2	3	3	2	—	—	3	2	3	4	27
Puerperal Pyrexia...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Infective .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Post Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery .....	5	3	14	11	1	6	8	3	—	1	1	—	53
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Malaria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	5	—	—	—	9
Totals .....	24	36	69	41	20	23	18	22	28	43	47	37	408

## WARD ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease	Bradley	Central	Clover Hill	Marsden	Netherfield	Southfield	Walverden	Whitefield	Total
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	18	4	20	24	8	23	14	8	119
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	22	5	6	17	26	13	5	4	98
Whooping Cough .....	26	5	4	15	13	17	9	6	95
Acute pneumonia .....	2	2	3	3	4	6	4	3	27
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Infective .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Post Infective .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery .....	4	5	8	5	6	11	11	3	53
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	3
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning .....	1	—	4	3	—	—	1	—	9
Totals ... ..	75	21	46	68	58	71	44	25	408



# INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

COMPARISON OF CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING  
THE YEAR 1954.

Notifications (corrected)	(1) England and Wales		(2) Nelson	
	Number of notifs.	Rate per 1,000 home population	Number of notifs.	Rate per 1,000 home population
Typhoid Fever .....	116	0.00	nil	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever .....	547	0.01	nil	0.00
Meningococcal Infection .....	1,246	0.03	nil	0.00
Scarlet Fever .....	42,393	0.96	119	3.53
Whooping Cough .....	105,901	2.39	95	2.84
Diphtheria .....	176	0.00	nil	0.00
Erysipelas .....	5,372	0.12	3	0.08
Smallpox .....	nil	nil	nil	nil
Measles .....	146,970	3.32	98	2.93
Pneumonia .....	26,542	0.60	27	0.80
Acute Poliomyelitis—				
Paralytic .....	1,314	0.30	nil	0.00
Non-paralytic .....	641	0.01	nil	0.00
Acute Encephalitis—				
Infective .....	116	0.00	1	0.02
Post-infectious .....	101	0.00	1	0.02
Dysentery .....	31,834	0.72	53	1.58
Food Poisoning .....	8,969	0.20	9	0.26
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	12,227	0.28	1	0.02
Tuberculosis—				
Respiratory .....	38,432	0.87	25	0.74
Meninges and C.N.S. ....	695	0.02	1	0.02
Other .....	4,940	0.11	3	0.08

Estimated home population (1) 44,274,000  
(2) 33,390

(1) Provisional figures based on Registrar General's Quarterly Returns.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 29 new cases notified during the year, 25 respiratory cases (13 males and 12 females) and 4 non-respiratory cases (1 male and 3 females). This was an increase of 2 cases, both respiratory, on the total for the previous year and gave an incidence rate of 0.84 per 1,000 of population (respiratory 0.74 and non-respiratory 0.10 per 1,000) compared with 0.80 per 1,000.

The occupations of the new patients notified during the year were as follows:—

Respiratory Cases.			Non-respiratory Cases.		
Occupation.	Sex.		Occupation.	Sex.	
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Aero Fitter .....	1	—	School Child .....	—	1
Clerk .....	1	2	Student Nurse .....	—	1
Clothlooker .....	1	—	Weaver .....	1	1
Housewife .....	—	3			
Overlooker .....	1	—			
Pinner .....	—	1			
Retired .....	1	—			
School Child .....	3	2			
Slaymaker .....	1	—			
Warper .....	1	—			
Weaver .....	2	2			
Weftman .....	1	—			
Winder .....	—	2			

Three deaths from tuberculosis were registered, 2 respiratory cases (both females) and 1 non-respiratory (a male) case. These deaths gave a death rate of 0.09 per 1,000 of population, respiratory 0.06 per 1,000, and non-respiratory 0.03 per 1,000. Compared with the previous year there were 4 less deaths in 1954, and the death rate was 0.12 per 1,000 of population less.

The incidence rates and death rates for this disease for England and Wales as a whole are, Incidence Rate-Respiratory 0.87 per 1,000 and Non-respiratory 0.13 per 1,000 of population, Death Rate—Respiratory 0.16 per 1,000 and Non-respiratory 0.02 per 1,000 of population.

During recent years the fight against tuberculosis has been intensified considerably by the use of new medicines and surgical techniques, the use of B.C.G. preventive inoculation and the Mass Radiography Service.

This latter service has resulted in the earlier detection and treatment of cases with correspondingly better results.

The No. 1 Mass Miniature Radiography Unit of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board carried out a survey in Nelson during the latter half of the year. The unit was stationed at the Civic Theatre, Stanley Street, and the opening ceremony took place on the 17th August.

Prior to the visit, in addition to the usual publicity of press notices and posters, I took the opportunity to issue a letter in the form of a circular to all householders in the borough explaining the object of the visit and inviting their co-operation. These were delivered to all houses in the borough.

In addition to the work carried out at the Stanley Street premises the unit also visited, by arrangement, certain factories in the area.

After the conclusion of the survey in early November I was informed by Dr. A. B. Colahan, the Medical Director of the Unit, that the response had been excellent and far exceeded their expectations and that this had continued throughout the visit. At some sessions, particularly on Fridays, more patients attended, mostly women, than could be dealt with and appointments were made for them to attend again later. He also stated that from an attendance point of view the survey had been one of the most successful made by the unit.

A total of 13,757 persons (6,538 males and 7,219 females) were X-rayed and 81 cases (40 males and 41 females) were referred to the Chest Clinic. Of the latter, 8 cases (3 males and 5 females) had already been notified as active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

At the time of the preparation of this Annual Report the final report on the Mass Radiography Survey giving full details of cases found and the follow-up findings, etc., has not been received, and I regret that I am unable to give more comprehensive statistical information.

The following tables show:—

1. Analysis of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during 1954, according to age groups and sex.
2. Number of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease with rates per 1,000 of population over a period of 16 years, 1939-1954.
3. Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register during the year.

Analysis of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease according to age groups and sex.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 to 5 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 years ... ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 years ... ..	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
20 to 25 years ... ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 years ... ..	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 45 years ... ..	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 to 55 years ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 to 65 years ... ..	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 to 75 years ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
75 and upwards ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	13	12	1	3	—	2	1	—
	25		4		2		1	

## TUBERCULOSIS.

PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS OVER PERIOD OF 16 YEARS,  
1939-1954.

## 1. NEW CASES.

Year	Respiratory		Non-respiratory				Total	Rate per 1,000 population	
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
1954 ...	12	13	...	1	3	...	29	...	0.86
1953 ...	7	16	...	3	1	...	27	...	0.80
1952 ...	12	12	...	5	2	...	31	...	0.91
1951 ...	14	8	...	6	7	...	35	...	1.02
1950 ...	13	4	...	6	7	...	30	...	0.86
1949 ...	24	15	...	4	9	...	52	...	1.50
1948 ...	22	10	...	4	7	...	43	...	1.24
1947 ...	12	9	...	2	4	...	27	...	0.79
1946 ...	25	6	...	3	9	...	43	...	1.31
1945 ...	16	9	...	4	10	...	39	...	1.25
1944 ...	18	9	...	3	11	...	41	...	1.30
1943 ...	19	5	...	11	7	...	42	...	1.32
1942 ...	20	8	...	6	9	...	43	...	1.31
1941 ...	15	11	...	10	2	...	38	...	1.10
1940 ...	16	10	...	9	7	...	42	...	0.95
1939 ...	10	6	...	6	13	...	35	...	1.01

## 2. DEATHS.

1954 ...	—	2	...	1	—	...	3	...	0.09
1953 ...	5	1	...	1	—	...	7	...	0.21
1952 ...	9	2	...	—	—	...	11	...	0.32
1951 ...	4	2	...	1	1	...	8	...	0.23
1950 ...	5	8	...	—	—	...	13	...	0.37
1949 ...	12	5	...	2	2	...	21	...	0.60
1948 ...	11	8	...	2	2	...	23	...	0.66
1947 ...	3	4	...	—	—	...	7	...	0.21
1946 ...	9	3	...	2	1	...	15	...	0.45
1945 ...	10	3	...	—	3	...	16	...	0.50
1944 ...	14	3	...	1	1	...	19	...	0.60
1943 ...	7	5	...	5	1	...	18	...	0.57
1942 ...	6	4	...	1	3	...	14	...	0.43
1941 ...	9	9	...	3	—	...	21	...	0.62
1940 ...	7	6	...	2	—	...	15	...	0.44
1939 ...	13	4	...	3	—	...	20	...	0.58



## NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER DURING THE YEAR.

	Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary			Total		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Number of cases on register at commencement of the year.....	77	61	138	25	29	54	102	90	192
Number of cases added to register during the year:—									
(a) New Cases .....	12	13	25	1	3	4	15	16	31
(b) Inward transfers from other districts	1	—	1	—	—	—			
(c) Restored to register	1	—	1	—	—	—			
Number of cases removed from register during the year:—									
(a) Died .....	1	2	3	—	—	—	9	11	20
(b) Recovered .....	5	1	6	1	2	3			
(c) Left district ...	—	4	4	—	—	—			
(d) Notified previously	—	1	1	1	1	2			
(e) Diagnosis not confirmed .....	1	—	1	—	—	—			
Number of cases on register at end of the year .....	84	66	150	24	29	53	108	95	203

There was no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Notification of the disease was generally efficient and there was no incidence of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was necessary under these Regulations for dealing with tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 — SECTION 172.

No action was necessary under this section for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

#### DISINFECTION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 141 dwellinghouses involving 149 rooms have been fumigated, and 1,667 articles of bedding and wearing apparel, etc., have been disinfected.

Formalin spray or vapour is used for the fumigation of rooms and the disinfection of bedding, etc., is carried out by steam, the apparatus being situate at the Cleansing Department, Charles Street, Nelson.

Disinfection and fumigation is also carried out on request following other illnesses and deaths, and during the year 4 rooms and 47 articles of bedding and wearing apparel were dealt with.

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